# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

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# Daily Report
## Near East & South Asia

*FBIS-NES-88-188* *28 September 1988*

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## 28 September Middle East and South Asia Review

LD2809132088 [Editorial Report]

### Afghanistan

A rocket attack on a square in the center of Kabul killed 35 people and injured 156, TASS announced 28 September, adding that 7 people were wounded by similar attacks on other parts of the capital. TASS did not say when the attack took place, but noted that 21 missiles were fired at Kabul within 1 hour.

The TASS announcement followed Kabul radio's report of further heavy weapons attacks on the capital the morning and afternoon of 27 September. AFP confirmed that Kabul was hit by a barrage of rockets, one of which landed in a crowded intersection and destroyed a bus, a truck, and at least three cars.

Other rockets landed within 500 meters of the U.S. Embassy and inside a security forces compound, AFP noted.

A recent PRAVDA report spoke of the "seriously complicated and exacerbated" situation in Afghanistan, estimated the total strength of the armed opposition at 168,000 men, and acknowledged that the government only retains full control of 24 out of 31 provincial centers.

As for Pakistan's claim that Afghan aircraft bombed a Pakistani village 26 September, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by TASS maintained that Afghanistan "did not bomb and is not bombing" targets on Pakistani territory. Pakistan's claim was likewise rejected by the Afghan authorities, according to Kabul radio.

### Pakistan

The Lahore High Court ruled that late President Mohammad Ziaul Haq's reasons for dissolving the National Assembly were illegal but that elections should still be held on 16 November in accordance with the president's declaration, Islamabad radio reported. The court ruling was in response to petitions challenging the dissolution order.

### Israel

**Territories Violence**—Two Arabs were killed during clashes with the IDF in the Gaza Strip 27 September and another person died from wounds inflicted by a plastic bullet the previous day, Jerusalem radio reported.

On the number of people wounded by IDF gunfire, the radio noted 7 injuries in Gaza and 3 in the West Bank, but THE JERUSALEM POST reported that at least 36 were hit by IDF fire throughout the territories.

IDF radio broadcast Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's statement at a news conference that the "growing number of injuries" does not signify an escalation of the unrest, but rather demonstrates the IDF soldiers' "improved ability to fulfill their job and attain their mission of effectively handling rioters."

**Foreign Affairs**—Referring to the upcoming arbitration decision on Tabah, the director general of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's office stressed there will have to be "negotiations" on the arbitrators' verdict, Jerusalem radio reported. Although Israel always keeps her international commitments, nothing can supersede her national sovereignty, he asserted.

Rabin, in contrast, stated in remarks broadcast by the radio that the government must abide by its commitment to the arbitration.

In New York, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres was informed by his Chinese counterpart that the PRC will not establish relations with Israel for the time being, but will continue bilateral contacts, according to Jerusalem radio.

### Lebanon

General Michel 'Awn announced that contacts are under way with Syria as part of an effort to arrange the presidential election and he confirmed his intention to send an envoy to Damascus, AFP reported. 'Awn was speaking after meeting with the two other officers in his cabinet.

On the Muslim side, Hizballah called on all parties which reject Maronite political hegemony to coordinate their efforts to overthrow the military government in the "Zionized ghetto," according to the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio.

Shi'ite theologian Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah told Tehran radio that the establishment of the military government was part of a U.S. "conspiracy" and that Gen 'Awn is a "U.S. pawn."

However, a commentary by Baghdad Voice of the PLO radio blamed Syria for the current crisis in Lebanon, asserting that "Damascus has succeeded where Israel failed" in completely dividing the country.

### Iraq

After a "period of time" Iraq's military industries will manufacture "something" that makes Iraq one of only three states in the world having it, President Saddam Husayn announced in a speech broadcast by Baghdad radio.

The president said he had learned this the previous day from "the young men in the military industrialization."

Without giving further details, Saddam Husayn emphasized that "this is real and not propaganda." Iraq has begun to occupy its "real position" in the world, he added, and will continue its "march" toward "happiness and prosperity."

**Saudi Arabia**

"If Israel can do whatever it wants for itself, we have the absolute freedom to do whatever we want to defend ourselves," Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan stressed in answer to a question about Israel's "spy satellite."

Speaking at a news conference reported by SPA, he added that studies are under way concerning the launching of an Arab satellite. Prince Sultan also noted that "serious efforts" are being made to establish wider cooperation between Saudi and Egyptian military industries and that the establishment of a GCC military industries coorporation is being studied.

Cooperation between the military industries of different Arab states could pave the way for the establishment of an Arab military industries corporation under the aegis of the Arab League, he indicated.

**Iranian Minesweeping**

The "headwaters" of the Gulf in Iranian waters and "major parts" of the Gulf's international waters have been "totally cleared of mines" as a result of the Iranian Navy's recent operations, the Navy commander announced in a statement cited by IRNA.

The area swept free of mines includes the channel leading to the Imam Khomeyni and Mahshahr ports. He added the Navy will continue minesweeping in the Gulf until the "whole region" is cleared.

**Libya-Chad**

An OAU official left Tripoli accompanied by 110 Chadian prisoners released by Libya as a "gift to Africa" on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the OAU, Tripoli television reported.

A PANA report confirmed that the prisoners' destination was Ndjamena, noting that a second batch of POW's is expected to leave Libya 28 September.

## Palestinian Affairs

### Abu Sharif on 'Three Options' Before PNC

*NC2709112488 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, 27 Sep (MENA)—Bassam Abu Sharif, political adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, has affirmed that there can be no peace in the Middle East without the establishment of two states on the land of Palestine—Israel and Palestine—or without the recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

In an interview with AL-WAFD, the Egyptian opposition paper, published today, Abu Sharif said that during its emergency session in October, the PNC will discuss a report prepared by the PLO Executive Committee which propounds three options to choose from.

The first option is the formation of a provisional Palestinian government; the second is the declaration of national independence; and the third is the formation of a provisional government together with the declaration of independence.

He added that the PLO Executive Committee's report to the PNC will also put forward for consideration the idea of a "short-term transitional period." This idea calls for the occupied territories to be placed under the aegis of the United Nations during the period of this transitional government, he added.

Abu Sharif pointed out to AL-WAFD that a Palestinian government, if approved by the PNC, would be the government of the entire Palestinian people both inside and outside the occupied territories. It would be of a transitional nature and its main concern would be to continue the struggle for the restoration of Palestinian rights and to serve the cause of regaining Palestinian rights, he noted.

'Arafat's political adviser stressed that the provisional Palestinian government would have its own political program, the contents and trends of which would be primarily based on decisions adopted by the PNC at previous sessions. He noted that the PNC alone will decide on this program.

Abu Sharif emphasized in this respect that the PNC, the Palestinian parliament, is the only party entitled to form a provisional Palestinian government in accordance with democratic norms and practices. He noted he does not know which individuals would be nominated as potential members of this government.

Regarding the postponment of the emergency session of the PNC until October, Abu Sharif pointed out that first it was necessary to complete the PLO Executive Committee's report to the PNC in a comprehensive and accurate way on the basis of a thorough examination of the issues involved from the legal and political points of view. It was also extremely important to carry out the necessary political consultations and send Palestinian delegations to Arab and foreign countries to see how many countries would recognize a provisional Palestinian government or Palestinian state, if proclaimed, he added.

In the interview, 'Arafat's political adviser touched on Egypt's role in the Palestinian issue. He said Egypt was the first country to propose the idea of a Palestinian government and that it always maintains its firm support for the Palestinian people. He pointed to the significance of Yasir 'Arafat's recent visit to Cairo, during which 'Arafat and President Mubarak discussed ways of stimulating regional and world efforts to establish the rights of the Palestinian people.

Responding to a question on the U.S. stand on the PLO, Abu Sharif said that the U.S. Administration will be forced, eventually, to recognize the PLO if it really wants to play an effective role in resolving the Middle East issue.

On the Soviet Union's stand in the event a provisional Palestinian government is proclaimed, Abu Sharif said the Palestinian people's friends have shown a strong willingness to recognize this government. He asserted that the number of countries recognizing a Palestinian government would be far greater than those recognizing Israel, adding several European countries would be among them.

### PLO's Hurani on 'Arafat's Cairo Talks

*JN2709162788 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 26 Sep 88 pp 1, 7*

[Text] Cairo—In a comprehensive interview with AL-ITTIHAD, 'Abdallah Hurani, member of the PLO Executive Committe, has praised Yasir 'Arafat's talks in Cairo last Wednesday.

Hurani said dialogue with Egypt always takes the form of an exchange of viewpoints between two sides, which are both keen on reaching what is in the best interests of the PLO. He added: As a friend, Egypt spoke frankly and clearly about what the PLO must do to win over world public opinion and the support of the world's influential forces that can pressure the opponents of the Palestine question in favor of the Palestinian people's rights, ensure recognition of these rights, and isolate the forces opposing the international conference and PLO participation in the peace process. He affirmed that the various Palestinian groups are currently in agreement.

Asked if Egypt has asked the PLO in particular to recognize Resolutions No 242 and 338, Hurani said: Like other friendly states, Egypt is interested in what is acceptable and desirable internationally. Thus the talk

about these two resolutions came in references to all the other legitimate UN resolutions, which cannot be ignored when talking about the international conference.

Hurani added that the frank discussions centered on three questions:

The position on Resolutions No 242 and 338, the recognition of Israel's right to exist, the consequent need for the PLO to make clear its position that it wants a state next to Israel and not a state in place of Israel, and the position on terrorism.

Hurani said Egypt advised the PLO to provide clear answers to these three questions to win world support. He said the PLO told Egyptian officials that the PLO did not reject the two UN Security Council resolutions, but simply said they are not the only ones representing international legitimacy. We accept them along with the other UN resolutions, he said.

Hurani said: Regarding the recognition of Israel's right to exist, the answer came clearly in 'Arafat's speech in Strasbourg when he said: We depend on international legitimacy, which approved the existence of two states in Palestine. One has already been established and the other has not yet been established. This means the PLO wants a state next to Israel and not a state in place of Israel.

Regarding the charter and whether the PLO can abandon it, Hurani said: The charter contains no provision calling for the destruction of Israel. It only speaks about rejecting the state of Zionism, the movement that the United Nations has termed "racist."

He said: The charter is a PNC resolution that was passed by a two-thirds majority vote. It was drawn up by the PNC and amended in 1969. So any council resolution has the power of the charter resolution. Since 1974 the PLO has adopted a number of resolutions that may have been viewed by some people as a deviation from the charter, but they were compatible with the different stages of Palestinian struggle. Therefore, it cannot be said that those political resolutions were contrary to the interests of the Palestinian people.

Regarding the point on terrorism, Hurani said the PLO has announced, is announcing, and is ready to announce at all times through cogent proof that it rejects and condemns terrorism. The proof is its commitment to the Cairo Declaration up to this day and its abidancce by UN resolutions condemning terrorism. He said the one practicing terrorism today is Israel and its followers, not the PLO.

Asked about Egypt's opinion that any crucial step must be postponed until after the Israeli elections, Hurani said: The issue of whether decisions should be made before or after the elections was discussed and it was agreed that the PLO, which makes its decisions in PNC sessions, has the right to announce its policies whenever it it sees fit.

On views expressed by some observers that the PLO is more sympathetic toward Peres than Shamir, Hurani said: I do not think that this is part of PLO policy. It has never preferred one Israeli ruler to another.

He said that while Shamir is adopting extremely radical and tough stands toward the Palestinian people, Rabin, a Labor Party leader, is no less extremist. So, the stands of the Likud and the Labor are the same. These stands are reflected in the official Israeli policy adopted by the Israeli Government.

Hurani said: Peres should do better at making himself and his party distinguished. He should present himself differently from the Israeli Government and his colleague Rabin. Only then can the PLO be asked who it prefers. Until now, we have been dealing with and judging the Israeli stand as a whole through the conduct and measures of the Israeli Government.

On Rabin's statement that acceptance of the partition resolution is suicide for Israel, Hurani said: We had hoped Rabin would have made such a statement when Israel was created in accordance with the partition resolution, No 181, and when the condition for accepting Israel in the United Nations was its recognition of Resolutions No 181 and 194 on the "refugees" and the Lausanne resolutions. Why should accepting a Palestinian state today mean suicide for Israel?

He added: Perhaps the opposite is true. As 'Arafat said, if Israel is looking for the peace of the brave, that is based on international legitimacy, then the hand of the PLO is extended. Resolution No 194 is part of international legitimacy. It may not be ignored and will be on the table of any international conference whether Rabin accepts it or not.

On Peres' recent statements that the PLO should practically, not orally, recognize the three said conditions, Hurani said: Had Peres' statements been true, the international conference would have been convened. The conditions stated by Peres were expressed in 'Arafat's recent speech in Strasbourg and the questions of the European parliamentarians. Therefore, Peres' statements can only be taken as a form of political maneuver. We do not precisely know what he means by practical, not oral.

On the PNC resolutions in light of conflicting Arab trends that might have a negative impact, Hurani said the PNC resolutions will not depart from those that won Arab consensus, especailly at the Fez summit and the latest Algiers summit. So, we cannot speak about negative Arab stands toward Palestinian inclinations, he added.

Hurani described the PLO's relations with Egypt as very positive, with Jordan as normal, and with Libya as good. He expressed the hope that PLO-Syrian relations will be normal.

On the position of conflicting Palestinian factions, Hurani stressed that there is a high degree of understanding and consideration among the PLO factions at this stage. Everybody feels the responsibility and the need for responding to this historical moment. Everybody is eager not to cause any rift in the PLO and to highlight the identity of the Palestinian people, he said.

### DFLP's Hawatimah on Palestinian Talks

*LD2709110488 Algiers APS in English 1035 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Algiers, 27/9/88 (APS)—The secretary general of the Democratic Front for Palestine Liberation Nayif Hawatimah who left Algiers on Monday stated that the inter-Palestinian discussions deal currently with three themes.

The first item he said, concerns the political decision which opens practical prospects for the uprising and puts stress on the enemy front to hold an international conference of peace on the Middle East guaranteeing expulsion of the occupying forces, the right for self-determination and independence and the refugees right for return.

He also underlined that the political decisions envisaged are based on the international legitimacy and the UN resolution which makes of our national rights and the international community will, the basis for a just and global settlement of the Middle East question.

"We have refused to be submitted to the pressures of Washington to recognize the enemy state and the Resolution 242 without any counter-part as George Shultz asked," he also added.

The second point concerns the declaration of independence and the creation of a Palestinian state consistent with the Resolution 181 of the UN which recognizes the right to create an independent state in Palestine.

The third point concerns the creation of a provisional Palestinian government formed by the Palestinian National Council and composed of members of the resistance and national personalities faithful to PLO program and the decisions of the National Council.

### Cairo-Amman Bank To Open Branch in Gaza

*JN2709153888 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 26 Sep 88 pp 1, 18*

[Text] Amman—AL-BAYAN has learned that the Cairo-Amman Bank, jointly owned by the Jordanian and Egyptian Governments, will open a branch in the occupied city of Gaza within the next few days, in accordance with its step 2 years ago to open three branches in the cities of Nabulus, Ramallah, and Hebron on the West Bank.

AL-BAYAN has also learned that a joint committee will be set up in Cairo soon to start the task of supporting the steadfastness of Gaza Strip citizens, similar to the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee for supporting the steadfastness of West Bank residents.

Informed circles also said the Egyptian Government has agreed to set up the committee at Yasir 'Arafat's request during his recent visit to Cairo.

## South Asian Regional Affairs

### Economic Organization's Chief Visits Pakistan

#### Salari Arrives 21 Sep

*LD2109182388 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 21 Sep 88*

[Text] Islamabad, Sept. 21, IRNA—New secretary general of the 3-nation Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) Iran's 'Alireza Salari arrived here Wednesday for a ten-day visit. In a talk with IRNA, Salari said the Islamic Republic of Iran will play a more active role in ECO after the imposed war ends for good.

Iranian officials have always placed emphasis on ECO, he said adding Tehran expects the organisation to step up cooperation among member states in view of the post-war reconstruction phase in the country. ECO groups Iran, Pakistan and Turkey and was set up following the victory of the Islamic revolution in 1979.

Salari predicted a very bright future for ECO, whose members have a total population of 220 millon people plus an abundant wealth of rich natural resources. Salari is to visit Ankara after talks with Pakistani officials.

#### Confers With Pakistan's Khattak

*LD2109211388 Tehran IRNA in English 1800 GMT 21 Sep 88*

[Text] Islamabad, Sept. 21, IRNA—Secretary-General of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) Iran's 'Alireza Salari discussed issues of the 3-nation body with Pakistan's Minister of Communications Mohammad Aslam Khattak Wednesday. Salari called for stepping up of cooperation within the ECO, which binds Iran, Pakistan and Turkey together.

The Pakistani minister emphasizing promotion of trilateral ties among ECO members said his country has decided to upgrade the ECO High Council from deputy ministerial to ministerial level.

In another development, Salari met Pakistan's deputy minister of planning and finance Ishar ul-Haq the same day and conferred on issues concerning ECO's infrastructural and economic committee. Views were also exchanged at the meeting on establishment of an investment bank and preferential tariffs as well as increase of trade among the three members.

Salari arrived here Wednesday on the first leg of his tour to hold talks with Pakistani officials. He is to visit Ankara after a ten-day stay in Islamabad.

## Algeria

### Reportage on Visit by Iraqi Transport Minister

#### Arrives 26 Sep

*JN2609201188 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1816 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Text] Algiers, 26 (INA)—Transport and Communications Minister Muhammad Hamzah arrived here tonight to lead the Iraqi side in the meetings of the sixth session of the Iraqi-Algerian joint committee which will begin work here tomorrow, Tuesday.

The committee will consider ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in the economic, trade, cultural, information, educational, higher education, transportation, and communications fields. It will also discuss the possibility of exchanging expertise and information as well as trade and economic delegations in addition to the exchange of commodities between Iraq and Algeria.

#### Attends Committee Meetings

*JN2709140088 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1325 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Algiers, 27 Sep (INA)—The sixth session of the Iraqi-Algerian joint committee began here today. The session will last for 2 days.

The Iraqi side was led by Transport and Communications Minister Muhammad Hamzah and the Algerian side by Heavy Industry Minister Faysal Boudraa.

During the meeting, the two ministers expressed the hope that the committee's sessions will help promote bilateral relations in various fields.

The committee, which will form economic and technical subcommittees, will discuss ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in the fields of economy, culture, information, education, higher education, transport, and communications. It will also discuss the possibility of expertise and information exchanges and exchanges of commodities between Iraq and Algeria.

Mr Hamzah arrived in Algiers last night at the head of a delegation comprising representatives of the Ministries of Transport and Communications, Agriculture and Irrigation, Education, Trade, and Foreign Affairs.

#### Received by Benjedid

*JN2709191788 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1725 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Algiers, 27 Sep (INA)—Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid met here today with Iraqi Transport and Communications Minister Muhammad Hamzah.

In a statement following the meeting, Hamzah said that he conveyed the greetings of President Saddam Husayn to his brother, Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. He added that the meeting discussed the broad scope for promoting and enhancing relations between the two fraternal countries and developments on the Arab scene.

Hamzah arrived in Algiers last night at the head of a delegation to chair the Iraqi side in the sixth session of the Iraqi-Algerian joint committee, which began here today.

### PLO's Salah Khalaf on Talks With Bendjedid

*LD2109105788 Algiers APS in English 1010 GMT 21 Sep 88*

[Text] Algiers, 21/9/88 (APS)—Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), CC member of the "Fatah" movement made a statement to the press, in which he indicated that he had "talks with President Chadli Bendjedid on the last developments of the Palestinian uprising and the daily repressive acts led by Israel against the Palestinian citizens, notably concerning the camps of internment installed by Israel, south of Palestine and in which the most object [as received] styles of torture are carried out."

Abu Iyad carried on that he informed President Chadli Bendjedid about interpalestinian meetings on the future of the Palestinian revolution and which took place, he said, in a constructive atmosphere.

### Bendjedid Receives Moroccan Delegation

*LD2109131188 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Sep 88*

[Text] His Excellency Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and FLN secretary general, has received at the presidential building an important Moroccan delegation. Mohamed Ridha Gdira, King Hassan II's adviser, made this statement following the meeting:

[Begin Gdira recording] We have come as a delegation to convey an oral message to His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid. The subject of the message is related to bilateral and Maghreb relations. We have tackled all the issues of joint concern. We hope, God willing, that we will build a bright future for the Moroccan and Algerian peoples. [end recording]

### Bendjedid Chairs FLN Session on Regional Issues

*LD2509174188 Algiers APS in Arabic 1445 GMT 25 Sep 88*

[Text] Algiers, 25 Sep (SPA)—The FLN Party Central Committee Political Bureau held a meeting today, Sunday, at the Republic's Presidency under the chairmanship of Chedli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN Party.

The bureau assessed the situation of the state and the state of the nation, in addition to various regional issues. The bureau also reviewed the qualitative development of relations between Algeria and fraternal countries. The political bureau expressed satisfaction with the unionist action between Algeria and Libya, considering this action to be a real contribution to the dynamics of building the Greater Arab Maghreb.

In conclusion, the political bureau called for a fraternal dialogue between Morocco and the Polisario Front to eliminate the obstacles to a return of peace and to end the bloodshed between the two fraternal countries.

### Draft Constitution for Union With Libya Detailed

*LD2409192588 Algiers APS in English 1005 GMT 24 Sep 88*

[Text] Algiers, 24/9/88 (APS)—The draft project for the constitution of union between Algeria and Libya which is the subject of a popular debate in the two countries is centered around three chapters including the general bases of the union, its prerogative and its institutions and a number of general provisions. These three chapters are preceded by a preamble announcing the main ideological and political principles founding this union.

The preamble mainly proclaims that the union's action undertaken by Algeria and Libya lies in a joint will in the unity of the Maghreb and Arab unity.

The two countries are also convinced that unity is a means for masses to realize their freedom, to assure their future and edify a democratic, popular and socialist society. Moreover, they reaffirm that socialism is the fair way to assure the edification of the projected society and that the choice is the result of no materialist philosophy and is linked to no concept that is irrelevant to the spiritual and social action of the two peoples.

It represents the means to realize popular objectives and ambitions and presents the revolution from falling under the monopoly of a limited minority. [sentence as received]

Moreover, the preamble stipulates that the projected union assigns on itself the following objectives.

—To form a democratic, popular and socialist society that is free from any form of exploitation.

—To work for the realization of the integral unity between the two countries.

—To work for the realization of the Arab Maghreb unity as a nucleus to global Arab unity.

—To work for the realization of Arab unity.

—To preserve and reinforce popular, democratic and social realizations.

—To be committed to oppose Zionism and struggle for the liberation of Palestine and occupied Arab territories.

—To side with liberation movements.

The first chapter of the draft project of constitution gives the general bases of the union. In conformity with these provisions, a union between Algeria and Libya called "Union of the Arab Maghreb States" is instituted.

This union is open to all Arab states accepting the provisions of this constitution. It also contains provisions related to fundamental freedoms and citizens rights and duties.

The second chapter contains provisions on the prerogatives of the union, its institutions and its finances. The union will be led by a presidential council of the union including leaders and presidents of member states. The leadership of this council is collegial with a system of rotating chairmanship and its decisions are unanimously taken. [quotation marks as received]

The document also provides for the creation of a political and ideological council including members of the FLN Party and of the Libyan Revolutionary Committees.

At the legislative level, the draft project provides for a people's national assembly and a high court.

It is worth noting that to facilitate the debates and enlarge consultation to a great number of citizens, President Chadli Bendjedid signed a directive aimed at officials in charge of animating the debates about the draft project. In this he insisted on the necessity to place these debates in an atmosphere of total freedom and democracy. The directive mainly insists on the diffusion and explanation of the draft project which must be known and understood by the largest number of the population.

## Egypt

### Mubarak, Delegation Leave Paris for Bonn 28 Sep

*NC2809101788 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0935 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] Paris, 28 Sep (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak left Paris at 0955 Paris time, 1155 Cairo time, on his way to Bonn, the fourth and last leg of his current European tour.

A band played the Egyptian and French national anthems in honor of President Mubarak, who was seen off at the airport by Ahmad Sidqi, Egyptian ambassador to France, embassy staffers, and representatives of the Egyptian community in France.

Prior to his departure from Paris this morning, President Mubarak received French Finance Minister Pierre Beregovoy; Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign

affairs; Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development. Dr Maurice Makramallah, minister of state for international cooperation; Pierre Hunt, French ambassador in Cairo; and Ahmad Sidqi, Egypt's ambassador in Paris, were also present at the meeting.

### Arrive in Bonn

*NC2809104388 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1025 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Bonn, 28 Sep (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak and the delegation accompanying him arrived at Cologne-Bonn Airport at noon today from Paris. [passage omitted]

### Mubarak, Delegation Return Home

*NC2809171988 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1715 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, 28 Sep (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak and the delegation accompanying him returned to the homeland tonight at the conclusion of a 1-week tour of Europe, which included visits to Yugoslavia, Britain, France, and the FRG.

### Mubarak Says Relations With SFRY 'Good'

*NC2409154488 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 24 Sep 88*

[Text] Belgrade, 24 Sep (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has described Egyptian-SFRY relations as good and going back to the establishment of the Nonaligned Movement. He said he is pleased that Yugoslavia will chair the Nonaligned Movement next year and noted that Yugoslavia is one of the founding members of the movement, which will enable it to play a vital role in cooperation with the other Nonaligned countries.

Interviewed by Yugoslav television, President Mubarak commented on the current Middle East situation, asserting Egypt's clear stand toward the peace process and its adoption of the Palestinian cause from the beginning until today.

Mubarak pointed out that it is difficult to attain anything from Israel because of the elections there now, after which the U.S. presidential election will take place. Mubarak expressed the belief that it will be difficult to make any progress on the Palestinian issue at this time. However, he added, we must think of the situation after the elections are over.

Answering a question on relations with the SFRY, President Mubarak said: Relations between Egypt and Yugoslavia are very good and date back to the early days of the Nonaligned Movement. Since then, cooperation between our two countries has continued and progressed. A significant development in bilateral cooperation recently took place when joint military and non-military industries were formed. Affirming that great progress in bilateral relations has been made, the president said: In our meeting this morning, I spoke with the Yugoslav prime minister about ways of boosting bilateral cooperation, and I believe that we are making good progress in this respect.

Replying to a question on the SFRY's chairmanship of the next session of the Nonaligned Movement and the basic role which the movement should play, President Mubarak said: To start with, I wish to say I am pleased that Yugoslavia will chair the Nonaligned Movement next year. Yugoslavia is one of the prominent founding members of the movement, and this movement is very large, perhaps the largest in the world. It consists of more than 100 countries, and it could have a great effect and play a bigger role. In my talks with the Yugoslav president yesterday and today, I emphasized the need for the movement to put forth something new.

I said we should not carry on in the same style we have followed since the establishment of the movement in 1961. We must study and discuss specific issues, issues of concern to the majority of the Third World which represents the greater part of the movement. Then a summit conference must follow. Having accomplished all this, there will be dynamic action within the movement regarding these same issues. I am confident that the SFRY is capable of playing a major role through its cooperation with the countries concerned with the vitality of the Nonaligned Movement.

Asked about his view and Egypt's stand on the current situation in the Middle East in light of the recent events in the region, President Mubarak replied: Egypt's stand on the peace process is very clear. We have adopted the Palestinian cause for as long as it has existed. We have never abandoned it, not for a single moment. I can say that when the popular uprising in the occupied land began in December of last year, we approached the United States a few weeks later to discuss this event and its harmful effects on the region. The United States, as well as all the peace-loving nations, responded and there were attempts made to convene an international conference so that we could enter negotiations on the Middle East issue. However, it seems that time was short and we could not reach a solution, especially with the Israeli elections ahead.

The president then said that it is difficult to obtain anything from Israel now. The Israeli prime minister and some other countries or groups, he said, despite the fact that former Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres had agreed on convening the conference, are still opposed to an international conference, even though most countries agree with holding the conference because it is the only way to resolve the issue. Taking note of the current Israeli elections and the U.S. elections which will follow, the president said: I believe that it will be difficult to make any progress on the issue at present. However, we

must think of the situation after these elections are over. We must consider moves to resolve the issue. Any statement or resolution by the PLO at this time [sentence incomplete as received].

### Foreign Minister Rejects Peres Proposal on Peace

*JN2809070988 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0600 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 28 Sep (WAKH)—Press reports in Abu Dhabi today said that Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has rejected Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' proposal regarding the issuance of a joint Egyptian-Israeli-U.S. statement stressing the necessary bases for negotiations on peace in the Middle East.

The newspaper AL-ITTIHAD quoted diplomatic sources in New York, which it described as highly placed, as saying that Peres made this proposal during the tripartite meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan the day before yesterday, provided that the statement should include a renouncement of terrorism and violence and a recognition of Resolutions 242 and 338. The sources added that during the tripartite meeting, Peres announced Israel's rejection of the 1947 Partition Resolution No 181 as a basis for any negotiations.

### 'Abd al-Majid on 'Importance' of Meeting

*NC2709152988 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] New York, 27 Sep (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stressed Egypt's commitment to the Middle East peace process and noted the importance of the meeting which U.S. President Ronald Reagan held with him and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres last night.

On the "Good Morning, America" program televised by the U.S. ABC network today, 'Abd al-Majid said: We view the mere convening of this meeting as a sign of the seriousness and continuity of the U.S. participation in the peace process. Holding this meeting at a time when both the United States and Israel are in the midst of election campaigns reveals the two countries' desire to make progress in this respect. It is important for us to note that whoever wins in the Israeli elections will sense the need to achieve peace.

Asked to assess the Camp David accords, 'Abd al-Majid said: The peace achieved will continue. We in Egypt are committed to peace. However, it is important that this peace be comprehensive, because the Palestinians have the right to peace too. I would like to mention here that we heard from President Reagan yesterday that he is concerned with Palestinian political rights. This is the first time we have heard the Palestinians' rights described as political. These rights are not merely human ones, and the issue is not merely one of refugees. It is a political issue which must be dealt with politically. We must find a solution to the Palestinian issue.

'Abd al-Majid noted that President Reagan had urged the Israelis to deal with the Palestinian issue politically and that he also urged them to meet with Palestinian leaders.

'Abd al-Majid noted the Palestinians' right to choose their representatives from among those in whom they place their trust, adding that Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat is certainly among these. It is he who represents the Palestinians. 'Abd al-Majid said: I sincerely and strongly believe that Yasir 'Arafat is aspiring to achieve peace for the Palestinians. We saw him recently taking a very reasonable and positive stand before the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

Asked whether 'Arafat is willing to give the guarantees the Israelis demand, he replied: If we start the negotiating process, perhaps the Palestinians will provide these guarantees. However, before anything else, the Palestinians must be recognized.

### Discusses Tabah, Other Issues

*JN2509111088 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 23 Sep 88 pp 22-25, 52-57*

[Interview with Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid by AL-MUSAWWAR staff in Cairo; date not given]

[Excerpts] AL-MUSAWWAR: We imagine the first subject we should discuss with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Mjid is the Iraq-Iran war.

Many questions have been raised over this war. Perhaps the foremost are the fears expressed by certain foreign and Arab quarters that Iraq's rigid stand might make it difficult to achieve peace with Iran. There are foreign and Arab moves to persuade Iraq to take a forward step in the peace with Iran, especially on the subject of the Algiers Agreement. The second subject concerns us here in Egypt. Unfortunately there are many who think that the Egyptian-Arab rapprochement resulted from the Gulf War, and that when this war ends, Egypt's position in the Gulf would not be as significant.

Perhaps, this may not be true, but the point has been raised in the arena and also expressed in several Arab and foreign viewpoints. At any rate, let us now concentrate on the first subject: Do peace prospects still exist in this war?

Dr 'Ismat: First, I am not new to this kind of dialogue. I remember now the first time when I came to this hall to join your discussion on Egyptian diplomacy in the United Nations. I was then Egypt's representative in the United Nations. Today, I am pleased to be able to join

you in the discussion of several topics that touch the core of my work as foreign minister. I mean by that Egyptian foreign policy. [passage omitted]

It is natural to expect the Iraqi-Iranian talks to face obstacles. Nobody has expected them to proceed smoothly. Negotiations are bound to go through a crisis period—stopping and then resuming. We have to expect all that. [passage omitted]

So I expect these talks to resume very soon whether in New York or Geneva, because quite simply neither side wants to go back to war.

Perhaps, this gives us some feeling of reassurance so that we can say that the negotiations will resume. The Algiers Agreement has not descended from heavan so that it cannot be touched. After what happened between the two states during the past 8 years, the Agreement must be translated into a new reality. Of course the people directly concerned are the two sides. All we hope is that the talks will resume to discuss these matters, which have legal aspects. There is the international Law of the Sea agreement, which has been drawn up by the United Nations and to which both states are signitories. This agreement defines shipping rules.

Therefore, it is possible to use these rulers, which have been accepted by the international community, as guidance on the subject of the freedom of navigation in the Gulf. Border issues are always complicated and take a long time to solve. Therefore, I again say that the two sides will most likely resume the negotiations in their attempt to solve this problem.

AL-MUSAWWAR: What perturbs us about this subject is that we have seen two important developments: First, will the Arab front remain steadfast behind Iraq in the negotiations? We feel that the Gulf states are urging for peace. They want the peace process to proceed more quickly since they do not want to go back to the situation which existed before the cease-fire. The other development is what taking place in international relations, especially the two superpowers' relations with Iraq and Iran. We feel that U.S.-Iraqi relations are stumbling.

The Americans have begun to talk about poisonous gas. There is a campaign against Iraq. These are the two developments: The Arab front and its desire to see quicker steps toward peace, and the two superpowers and the possible change of their attitudes toward Iraq and Iran.

Dr 'Ismat: I believe that the Arab states are bound to remain steadfast behind the Iraqi front. I imagine that this Arab support will continue. Undoubtedly, the Gulf War was a touchstone and a test for Arab cohesion, with the exception of Syria and Libya. [passage omitted]

Regarding your reference to U.S.-Iraqi relations and the campaign against Iraq, we already expressed our position in the statement we issued last Tuesday. We said that while Egypt is against the use of chemical weapons and bans their use, the testimonies received from official and nonofficial sources could not confirm that Iraq used these weapons. Therefore, it is in the general interest to concentrate on the peace talks rather than on sideshows, such as the subject of chemical weapons, especially since there are certain quarters whose sole concern is to discredit Iraq and belittle its victories.

We, as Arabs and brothers to Iraq, should brush aside these unimportant issues and concentrate on achieving peace. It is not in our interest also to create an estrangement with Iran so long as it is committed to the peace line. New developments are taking place inside Iran today. These developments show that Iranian policy is inclined toward a peaceful settlement and mutual understanding. [passage omitted]

AL-MUSAWWAR: Regarding the Americans and Iraqi-Iranian relations, it is understood that Iran fulfills a very large part of U.S. strategy, on the consideration that the U.S. security theory depends on basic, strategic relations with Iran. What scares Iraq most today is that the negotiations might be dependent on the Americans showing more supoport for the Iranians, since Iran is a part of this U.S. basic strategy, and that all this would be at the expense of Iraqi rights?

Dr 'Ismat: I am not trying to defend the U.S. stand, but on many occasions in recent years the United States was closer to Iraq than to Iran, with the sole exception of Irangate. Whoever followed U.S. policy must have observed that the Americans bore more on Iran than anyone else.

Regarding recent developments, I am of course opposed to this campaign against Iraq. The U.S. Administration's viewpoint is that by using internationally banned weapons, Iraq had violated the international convention banning the use of chemical weapons. However, Iraq denies the use of such weapons.

AL-MUSAWWAR: What is the Egyptian Foreign Ministry's opinion on that?

Dr 'Ismat: We feel that all testimonies confirm that this did not happen.

AL-MUSAWWAR: But the U.S. Ambassador Frank Wisner told newsmen after meeting with you that Iraq had used internationally banned chemical weapons.

Dr 'Ismat: I raised this subject during our meeting and indeed he made such a statement to the press, but I had also told him that we had information denying such usage. Therefore, the question is disputable. It is also possible that certain forces in the United States wanted to undermine Iraq's victories. These forces have even

operated within the Congress. So I do not want to give this subject more attention than it deserves. As for the reference to Iran's geopolitical importance, this is indeed true and it has given it a significant place vis-a-vis the Soviet Union, United States, Gulf states, and the oil routes. All these things are possible, but they have nothing to do with supporting one side against another.

I say that if in the coming phase Iran pursues a policy of good will and mutual understanding and desists from its attempt to export the Khomyniite revolution, it would be welcomed by Egypt and many other countries. But if it goes back to exporting the Khomeyniite revolution, which has failed in its own country, we will never accept that. In fact, we will resist it. [passage omitted]

AL-MUSAWWAR: We feel that the presence of the U.S. fleets was an attempt to make people somewhat accept the idea of internationalization following the stumbling of the Iraq-Iranian talks?

Dr 'Ismat: Internationalization is a difficult and complicated matter. In my opinion, we should not get involved in internationalization when the problem concerns two countries. But it is possible to speak about guarantees. Had we applied the Law of the Sea agreement, which is an international agreement signed by all countries including Iraq and Iran, and had we accepted international rules, our situation today would have been all right and the subject of internationalization would not have arisen. Internationalization has to be decided by the countries concerned. And if you ask me my reply will be: I have no right to express an opinion on this matter. But there is the international law and its rules, and they must be upheld.

AL-MUSAWWAR: What do the rules of international law say on a question like that of the Shatt al-'Arab?

Dr 'Ismat: The Shatt al-'Arab is a waterway. And, when a waterway exists within the territorial waters of any country, there is something called the right of passage. In other words, a ship has the right to pass through the waterway taking it to international waters without interference from a littoral state, provided of course that such a ship does not engage in sabotage or pollution operations. There are other rules too which have been accepted by the international society. There is what is called "innocent passage," meaning innocent passage as long as the ship does not engage in smuggling or other offenses. Even a warship is allowed passage, provided of course the authorities of the country owning the territorial waters is informed in advance.

The Shatt al-'Arab is Iraq's only outlet to the Arabian Gulf. Therefore, Iraq's rights must be appreciated and respected. [passage omitted]

AL-MUSAWWAR: Are there attempts to improve relations between Cairo and Tehran?

Dr 'Ismat: I have already said that we want to see signs of goodwill from Iran. We want to see the statements made by the Iranian Government or Iranian officials corroborated with deeds. There is no enmity whatsoever between Egypt and Iran. And first of all, Iran took the initiative in severing ties with Cairo. When the Khomeyniite revolution came, it adopted an unjustified hostile stand toward Egypt because of the Camp David accords, the conclusion of which was one of our rights.

If Iran the revolution seeks to place itself in the position of the one who wants to teach lessons to Egypt, I would like to say that we declared our opinion more than once in this regard saying that we refuse to take lessons from Iran and other parties. Hence, the trouble was initially created by the Iranian side and not by the Egyptian side. When the Iraq-Iran war erupted, we stood alongside Iraq and will continue to do so. Iran should have understood this and should have realized that Egypt will not back down on this stand.

AL-MUSAWWAR: President Husni Mubarak met 1 week ago with Yusuf al-'Alawi, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, who failed to provide reporters after the meeting with conclusive answers when they asked him about the Egyptian POWs. Do you have any comments on the president's meeting with Yusuf al-'Alawi.

Dr 'Ismat: I cannot add to what was said by the Omani minister of state for foreign affairs. [passage omitted]

AL-MUSAWWAR: As for the problem of the Shatt al-'Arab, does Egypt believe that Iraq is preoccupying itself more than necessary with a problem which can be postponed to a later time?

Dr 'Ismat: Iraq is more aware of its interests than Egypt. However, there is no doubt that Egypt supports the Iraqi stand. Iraq is the party which has the final say regarding what it can and cannot accept on this issue. [passage omitted]

AL-MUSAWWAR: How far has this Soviet-U.S. dialogue reached?

Dr 'Ismat: Regarding the Middle East issue, we are witnessing a U.S. plan. Some principles of this plan are positive, while we have remarks about some other principles. I believe that one of the positive principles in this plan is the principle of exchanging territory for peace. This principle has never been highlighted the way it is being currently highlighted. The Soviet side used to call for the convocation of the international conference and for acceptance of the international conference idea which was supposed to replace the direct negotiations concept. It is understood that there can be no solution without holding direct negotiations.

There are still U.S.-Soviet differences on the international conference—on the nature and role of this conference. We believe that it must be held under UN auspices

and that the five permanent members of the UN Security Council must attend. Nobody denies that the superpowers differ on the formula of the conference, the convocation and also on the authorities of that conference.

This brings us to another point; namely, the one pertaining to the role of the international conference. Will it be a bogus or an objective role? Any effective role would help the conference to tackle all issues pertaining to the Middle East conflict and would also produce practical solutions to them to ensure the attainment of peace. This is also a topic on which the superpowers differ.

Nevertheless, I can say there is clear readiness for agreement as indicated by recent signs. The USSR and the United States agreed that there are issues which should be discussed directly among the concerned parties and states have nothing to do with such discussions. This means that if, for example, negotiations are held between Syria and Israel on the Golan as part of an international conference, the two superpowers have the conviction that such issues should be resolved through direct negotiations between the two parties. This also applies to the other parties.

Nevertheless, there are certain issues that cannot be separated from the task and role of the international conference. There are, for example, the guarantees and continuity fo peace. Which party, other than the Security Council, for instance, can guarantee peace?

When Egypt signed the peace accord it requested the Security Council to help it through the peace-keeping force in Sinai. I recall that the USSR then objected to this request so we had to resort to the multi-national force currently in Sinai. Hence, in case peace is attained we will naturally resort to the Security Council, just as happened regarding the Iraq-Iran war. After this war stopped when Iran accepted resolution 598, the Security Council dispatched its forces to maintain peace on the borders between the two parties. Thus, there must be issues subject to understanding between the two superpowers and other big powers in addition to the regional parties of course. Such an understanding can only be provided by an international conference.

AL-MUSAWWAR: Do the two superpowers still have diferences over the PLO's role too?

Dr 'Ismat: The issue of the PLO is one of Palestinian representation, which is an inevitable matter. In other words, those who run the Palestinian people's affairs and express their hopes and aspirations are the Palestinian people's representatives who are embodied by the PLO. The PLO's legitimate representation of its people was further confirmed after the recent Jordanian decision were issued in July. Hence, the PLO's role or its repsonsibilities toward the Palestinian people cannot be denied at all although we definitely know the truth of the U.S. and Israeli stands on the PLO as well as the preconditions which they impose on the PLO before they accept its participation in an international conference.

Therefore, we are exerting every effort to reach a formula securing the PLO's participation in such a conference. But although we are among those who support the PLO's participation in an international conference, yet we can say the PLO is the party that should determine the situation because there will be no peace without the Palestinians. Moreover, the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip daily confirms the truth of the PLO and affirms the fact that the Palestinian people alone have the decisive word on both their destiny and the fate of their territories. Israel should take a lesson from this uprising because following 21 years of occupation the Palestinian resistance still exists and the Palestinian people have not relinquished their rights.

Consequently, I say we are now facing a serious phase in which the PLO is required to declare its stand and to realistically face matters. Others are required to begin a new phase on the path of achieving peace in the region.

AL-MUSAWWAR: But a U.S.-Palestinian dialogue, for instance, seems to be still a remote possibility.

Dr Ismat: You may recall President Mubarak's initiative of January 1988, urging a dialogue and a political utilization of the uprising. The point he made was that the uprising is a reality with repercussions. The question is how to utilize it politically. The question was addressed to all parties, most of all the Palestinians and the Americans. When the latter came up with the Shultz plan, we noted that it incorporated positive and negative points. On the negative side was their refusal to deal with the PLO before it accepts UN Security Council Resolution No. 242, ceases terrorist activity, and recognizes Israel. This still remains the case even after the Jordanian option was dropped.

Israel and the United States had wanted a solution to the Palestinian problem within a Jordanian framework. Egypt's position was radically different from the U.S.-Israeli approach. The point is whether the Palestinians will accept the American terms. We now hear talk about mutual and simultaneous recognition—something we had proposed before. You have Yasir 'Arafat now saying he is available for talks with any Israeli official at the United Nations—something unheard of before. Ten years ago, he would have been accused of betraying the Palestinian cause. This adds up to a new development that deserves to be encouraged, more so with the uprising driving home the lesson that the Palestinians reject occupation and that Israel will have to coexist with them.

AL-MUSAWWAR: Yasir 'Arafat proposed two options before the European parliament in Strasbourg: A provisional Palestinian government or UN trusteeship [over the occupied land]. How acceptable are those alternatives to Israel, do you think?

Dr 'Ismat: I heard this speech. A UN trusteeship is a tall order requiring a UN resolution, and then there is the question of implementation. An interim government would be more realistic, although I am in the dark as to the form and role of such a government. Here, some questions arise: How will the PLO and a provisional govenment relate to each other? What kind of political program will it have? Such questions have yet to find answers.

AL-MUSAWWAR: The proclamation of a provisional government would likely be coupled with a new PLO agenda featuring a Palestinian state and an Israeli state. What kind of political program does Egyptian diplomacy envisage for such a government?

Dr 'Ismat: Honestly speaking—in my personal rather than official capacity—it is advisable that a political program be formulated before the government is announced. The apparatus to execute the program may be addressed later. We ought not to create the apparatus before its function is spelled out, since the relationship between the two is important. I therefore urge the Palestinian brothers to formulate a political program. We will support whatever they decide. They must handle this thing so as to serve their goals.

AL-MUSAWWAR: Would you advise a confederal or federal relationship between the Palestinians and Jordan?

Dr 'Abd al-Majid: The February 1985 PLO-Jordan agreement hinted at confederal ties and this is still on the table. Palestinian-Jordanian coordination is essential. A high ranking Palestinian delegation was in Jordan recently and conducted very useful and fruitful talks producing positive results. We are all for this trend, and any joint Jordanian-Palestinian moves are to be welcomed by Egypt.

AL-MUSAWWAR: For this political program of the provisional government to be accepted and supported, do you think it should include some sort of reciprocal and simultaneous recognition of Israel?

Dr 'Ismat: If negotiations are to take place, they must be conducted between two parties, each recognizing the other. When I speak about a realistic outlook, this outlook should be removed from imaginations and wishes.

AL-MUSAWWAR: Do you think that the partition resolution of 1947, which provides for the establishment of two states, Palestinian and Israeli, can fit as a basis for a solution?

Dr 'Ismat: The partition resolution is 41 years old. The Arab countries rejected the resolution while Israel accepted it and considered it its birth cirtificate. Today, if the resolution is taken as a birth certificate for the Palestinian state, then this will be very much in order. What was rejected in 1947 can be accepted now. The resolution embodies a legitimacy that the United Nations recognized. This idea is currently in the mind of some Palestinian leaderships, though they have to determine this.

AL-MUSAWWAR: Out of our concern about the Palestinian question, we ask you about the pitfalls in which this program of the provisional government should not fall.

Dr 'Ismat: Inside the Palestinian movement, some forces reject such solutions. The PLO is required to handle such things. We say that Yasir 'Arafat's leadership enjoys every confidence and capability. He has a wide popular base as he embodies the Palestinian struggle. However, the existence of conflicts is natural. But these disagreements must be overcome and a unified stand must be reached. The unity of the Palestinian ranks is important at this stage.

AL-MUSAWWAR: But how can this be achieved with the presence of people like Ahmad Jibril and Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], each having his loyalties and stands that reject the leadership of the PLO and its political line?

Dr 'Ismat: We say that if the minority wants to impose its will on the majority under the slogan that this is democracy, then this is untrue because it means dictatorship. Yasir 'Arafat enjoys the majority. What I wish during the coming stage is to come up to the world with a unified Palestinian decision. Then the Arab role to support this decision begins. Egypt will be a leader in this, especially since we care most for the Palestinian question. [passage omitted]

AL-MUSAWWAR: Is it true that anti-Jordan Palestinian statements was one of King Husayn's reasons for deciding to sever ties with the West Bank?

Dr 'Ismat: As I said earlier, King Husayn's decision is aimed at handing over the full responsibility to the PLO. There had been, of course, Palestinian statements that harmed Jordan, such as talking about a suspicious Jordanian development plan. However, I think that everybody is approaching a new stage within the framework of common cooperation in the interest of the Palestinian question. All doors for accusations should be closed forever.

AL-MUSAWWAR: How can Egypt help the Palestinians fill the administrative and legal vacuum?

Dr 'Ismat: The president gave his instructions that we place all our legal and other capabilities in their service. But the Palestinians have the basic role. Here, I am speaking about the political program. We do not interfere in living and administrative affairs. Our aim is to support the movement of the Palestinian people to attain their legitimate rights, formost of which is their right to self-determination.

AL-MUSAWWAR: Why did not Egypt take a step concerning Gaza similiar to King Husayn's step in the West Bank?

Dr 'Ismat: Egypt does not have any role in Gaza, except that it had the responsibility of administrative supervision. Sovereignty and ownership is for the Palestinian people.

AL-MUSAWWAR: But, how do you view the future of the Palestinian state in case it is declared at the current stage?

Dr 'Ismat: From the legal viewpoint, the Palestinian brothers know the consequences of any stand they would adopt. I stressed the political program of the provisional government. According to the international law the word "state" is linked to a people, a region, and an authority. So when we today say a Palestinian state then these three elements should be available. However, if we mean taking the issue to the friendly states, then the reply will be a recognition and there are two kinds of recognition; the actual recognition and the legal recognition. If we start on this then we will never see the end of the road.

AL-MUSAWWAR: Do you believe that the states that recognize the provisional government will be less than the states that recognize the PLO, or will the number of states increase?

Dr 'Ismat: This is an issue left to the Palestinian brothers to think of when they say that they will proclaim an independent Palestinian state. The Egyptian stand is that it agrees on all that the PLO agrees on, and Egypt will help the provisional government. However, what we are talking about now is the political program because it will reactivate the cause. This is why the program should be defined clearly.

AL-MUSAWWAR: Do you think that time is ripe now to proclaim a provisional government for the Palestinians?

Dr 'Ismat: Ask the PLO leadership on this issue because it definitely has its own explanations and Egypt does not interfere in this. We only say that we agree on what the Palestinians agree. The whole world is waiting for a Palestinian decision, and if they come up with a unified decision then we will support it.

AL-MUSAWWAR: Within the framework of your expected meeting in Washington with U.S. President Reagan in the presence of Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, several sides say that this meeting is aimed at the Israeli constituency. Do you believe that it is in our interest to be a party in a game whose objective is the Israeli constituency?

Dr 'Ismat: Constituency?

Dr 'Ismat: We understand this invitation as being a plan on which we have our own remarks. Shultz has always stressed the United States' concern about the continuation of the peace process. I recall that during one of his recent tours he said that his country is determined to continue with the peace process. As we are concerned about the continuation of the peace process, then we consider any U.S. move in this direction a gain that should be exploited, especially since as I have just said we consider the U.S. plan an encouraging one although we have our own remarks on it. The objective of the 26 September meeting is to hold consultations and exchange information within the framework of the peace process. We consider this offer as a continuation of the U.S. stand that began in April.

By showing interest in this meeting, President Reagan attaches special importance to it. We consider this as being a commitment by the highest level in the U.S. Administration. I do not want to interfere in the U.S. elections, but let us suppose that the results of elections will be in favor of the Republicans again. I believe that this would support the cause through administrative contacts between the new and the old administrations. I view this meeting from this angle and I consider it a positive and a useful one. We do not believe that the problem will be solved in the remaining short period. However, we view this meeting as being a continuation of the efforts to settle it.

AL-MUSAWWAR: Were certain issues proposed in advance to be included in the agenda of that meeting?

Dr 'Ismat: Only one topic, the peace initiative.

AL-MUSAWWAR: Was not the Tabah issue discussed at the meeting?

Dr 'Ismat: It was not discussed at all. I was asked about this point on my way back from Cyprus and I said it was not discussed.

AL-MUSAWWAR: Do you think the meeting will benefit Peres in Israel's forthcoming elections?

Dr 'Ismat: This is not my problem, and I am not ready to interfere in Israel's elections. Egypt's main goal is peace and I accepted the invitation on this basis.

AL-MUSAWWAR: Reagan will meet with the GCC foreign ministers after his meeting with you and Shim'on Peres. How do you view that meetinmg?

Dr 'Ismat: You know even the details of the U.S. president's program. This meeting will actually take place, and it is natural for the president to discuss the Gulf issue with the GCC ministers.

AL-MUSAWWAR: What are the current important developments in Israel?

Dr 'Ismat: The uprising has caused an important change in the region. Israel's elections campaign is also important. There is some disagreement between us and Israel but this will not prevent normal relations. However, we condemn Israel for its practices against the Arabs and Palestinians in the occupied territories. We reject the expulsion of Palestinians and the repressive actions against them. We strongly condemn such practices. At the same time, there are peace forces inside Israel, which are eager to hold dialogue and find a solution to the issue. Other forces are also against peace.

We should take the demographic development in Israel into consideration. It is in Israel's long-term interest to coexist with the Palestinians. If Israel seeks peace, then this will be in its own interest and in the interest of the region. This is the Egyptian viewpoint. Peace is the axis of Egypt's policy.

AL-MUSAWWAR: Israel has begun to sense the Palestinian problem, but Peres is still hesitating after the removal of the Jordanian option. He still does not say who are the Palestinians. The Likud is still hesitating regarding its old policies. It is true that there are peace forces, but outside the political framework. There are also more extremist groups such as Kahane's. All Israeli society maintains extremist positions on the Palestine question.

Dr 'Ismat: This is wrong and grave. We have to draw attention to it. The United States, the Soviet Union, and Europe also draw attention to this danger. The invitation of Yasir 'Arafat to deliver a speech before socialist parties in Salzburg [as published] should not go unnoticed. This means that the Palestine question has become a subject of interest to European intellectuals.

There is no doubt that Israel will understand this, because more than 20 years of occupation have not secured peace for it. The uprising has changed the picture just as the October war changed the picture in Egypt. Israel won in the 1967 war, and it believed it took control of the situation. Then the October 1973 war broke out to completely change the picture. As a result, we dealt with each other, reached an understanding, and we have peace now. This peace has certain conditions. If Israel respects it, we will respect it. It is impossible for Israel to get peace and land at the same time. Therefore, we understand the U.S. position and call for peace in return for land.

AL-MUSAWWAR: Your Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister, regarding the coming Israeli elections, what if the Labor Party wins?

Dr 'Ismat: I do not like to make any speculations in advance because we view matters on a purely scientific basis.

AL-MUSAWWAR: How can we arrange the Arab house from the diplomatic viewpoint in the face of numerous international developments?

Dr 'Ismat: We cannot superimpose anything on international politics which I have long been experiencing. There is an influential force and there are also circumstances of exerting pressure and there is a method for making moves. I always say there is responsibility to be shouldered first by the Arab side and second by the Palestinian side. First, we should know how to use the appropriate timing. We, along with all the forces that assist us, should also work for peace. I reiterate the talk about peace because it is a strategic Egyptian demand in which all of us, as Egyptians, should believe. We should also work for it and convince the other party that peace is in its interest.

Peace never emanates from weakness because I am actually strong. It fully conforms with everything one can wish and, perhaps, the Iraq-Iran war is the clearest evidence of this. This war lasted 8 years and cost the two warring parties numerous casualties and huge funds but what was the result? They are holding negotiations now to let this be a lesson to everyone. Egypt suffered and offered dear sacrifices. The result was that we waged a battle, won it, and concluded a peace treaty. We will maintain this peace as long as the other party maintains it, regardless of the extremist elements which either party may have.

Here in Egypt there are extremist elements who do not want peace but this is a natural matter in the atmosphere of freedom and democracy we are experiencing. Moreover, everyone can say whatever he likes. The Egyptian political line has its own objectives and the objective of Egypt's foreign policy is to achieve peace, stability, and development.

If the other party imagines we are maneuvering then it does not actually understand the Egyptian stand. Likewise, if the other party imagines we are weak, then we will say: Our stand does not emanate from weakness but we are rather strong because Egypt has weight on the domestic, foreign, Arab, African, and Islamic levels. Although some in Israel are not convinced of this, yet there is a peace-seeking force in Israel. We care for peace and it is wise to help the peace-seeking forces as long as they actually want peace. Hence the effects of the uprising and the radical changes it has created inside Israel.

AL-MUSAWWAR: Your Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister, for Israel the intricate point is that it demands that the PLO to change its policy, renoucne terrorism, and recognize Israel. This is a point of convergence with the U.S. Administration. But we cannot overcome this intricate point even if we ask the PLO to implement any plan whatsoever. How can this point be overcome?

Dr 'Ismat: Indeed, I have no reply to this point but the Palestinian brothers may reply to it in the first place. Here, I cannot intervene in something which is none of my business. I discussed the political program which should contain the form and approach of Palestinian thought in the coming phase. I would like to emphasize that we are all experiencing a new phase not linked to previous phases. This is because the recent Jordanian stand has changed facts. [passage omitted]

AL-MUSAWWAR: Let us now get into the Tabah issue although we know that you are committed to not talking about this issue until a court ruling is issued in this regard. What do you expect on 29 September, the day when the court ruling will be pronounced on this issue which concerns every Egyptian?

Dr 'Ismat: [passage omitted] We look forward to 29 September with hope, confidence, and optimism. We hope that in accordance with the arbitral compromise ruling Israel will honestly implement the ruling with good intentions, because one of the conditions of the court ruling is that it is binding. Therefore arbitration is different from compromise. Compromise is not binding. I want to say that all these things stress our just cause and stand. We hope that the court ruling will support the restoration of Egypt's sovereignty over Tabah. The U.S. side interfered in an attempt to settle the issue outside arbitration.

The U.S. interference took place due to the fact that the United States signed with us on the arbitral compromis as a witness. Murphy was here at the time. The signing ceremony took place at 0100 in the morning. Later, Peres visited Alexandria and a meeting was held. Israel should implement the court ruling if it is pronounced in Egypt's favor. Thus, Tabah will return to Egyptian sovereignty as it was in the past, and this area will become part of dear Sinai which returned to Egypt. This is all I have to say about Tabah. [passage omitted]

AL-MUSAWWAR: Do you expect Israel to implement the arbitration decision, and what guarantees do we have in this regard?

Dr 'Ismat: We hope that the parties to the arbitration will implement the court ruling with good intent. The court should follow up the implementation of the decision. The court will continue its sessions for a period of time to follow up the implementation of the ruling after its pronouncement. [passage omitted]

AL-MUSAWWAR: Will the return of Tabah to us be accompanied by agreements and facilities that might be given to the Israeli side?

Dr 'Ismat: We will examine these issues as long as they will not conflict with the Egyptian sovereignty. We are basically concerned about Egypt's sovereignty. All people on this territory will hold passports and this is in agreement with the provisions of Egypt's sovereignty. In general, these are all details which I do not want to get into. However, I want to say clearly that full Egyptian sovereignty over Tabah is Egypt's decisive stand. [passage omitted]

AL-MUSAWWAR: Will there be any possible negotiations between Egypt and Israel on other issues after the negotiations on Tabah? We have heard that there will be negotiations on Dayr al-Sultan. What is your comment on this?

Dr 'Ismat: There will be no negotiations, and our stand on Dayr al-Sultan is known, namely that it should return to the Egyptian Church. [passage omitted]

AL-MUSAWWAR: The last topic we will discuss with the deputy prime minister and foreign minister is the issue of our foreign relations. We follow up our relations with the USSR and the developments in these relations. We believe that the restoration of these relations is considered a balanced policy. What can we say about our relations with the USSR?

Dr 'Ismat: As you said, our relations with the USSR are progressing within the framework of understanding and appreciation for Egypt's position and role in the region. The change that took place in the Soviet leadership is undoubtedly a positive one. Moreover, this open policy and the so-called perestroika have clear results in the whole world and in the relations with the United States. We can feel this in the efforts to help settle a number of regional problems. We of course welcome this. [passage omitted]

## Tabah Delegation Leaves for Geneva Session

*NC2709164388 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1421 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Excerpts] Cairo, 27 Sep (MENA)—An Egyptian delegation left Cairo this afternoon to attend the session at which the ruling on the Tabah issue will be announced. The session will be held in Geneva on Thursday, 29 September. The delegation includes Dr Mufid Shihab, head of the International Law Department of Cairo University; Dr Salah 'Amir, professor of international law at University; lawyer Samih Sadiq; and Colonel Muhammad Kamil Shinnawi, of the Military Survey Department.

The delegation is to join another Egyptian team already in Geneva which includes Dr Nabil al-'Arabi, representative to the arbitration panel and head of Egypt's delegation to the European UN Headquarters in Geneva; and Ambassador Ahmad Mahir, former director of the Foreign Ministry's Legal Department and current Egyptian ambassador to the Soviet Union. [passage omitted]

Dr Shihab has expressed his confidence and hope that the ruling will confirm Egypt's sovereignty over Tabah. He said that since the arbitration began Egypt has had an abiding faith that it would be able to establish its sovereign rights over Tabah through legal, geographic, and historical documents.

### Daily Says Israeli Satellite Under Study

*JN2709143388 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1300 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, 27 Sep (WAKH)—Cairo press reports today say that an Egyptian quarter is continuing to study through its own special contacts the dimensions of the launching of the Israeli espionage satellite and the technology that has been used in it.

The Egyptian paper AL-SHA'B quotes what it terms well informed sources as saying Egyptian quarters at the highest level have been fully aware since last March of U.S.-Israeli cooperation in producing the Israeli satellite for espionage on Egypt and the Arab region.

The sources point out that the Egyptian quarters are closely following the possible effects of launching the Israeli espionage satellite.

The sources attribute the U.S.-Israeli agreement on the production of the espionage satellite to the strategic cooperation between the Zionist enemy and Washington. The sources note that the U.S. Administration gave the go-ahead for the production of this satellite following a proposal by Shamir during one of his U.S. visits more than a year ago.

### Agreements Signed After Talks With UAE

*NC2209202188 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1705 GMT 22 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 22 Sep (MENA)—Final talks between Egypt and the UAE began at the Prime Ministry this evening with a meeting between Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi and UAE Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad Al Nuhayyan. The meeting, which preceded an expanded session between the two sides prior to the signing of two agreements on cooperation in economic and cultural fields, was attended by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Following a brief meeting which lasted 20 minutes, members of the two delegations held an expanded session during which Dr 'Adil 'Izz, minister of state for scientific research, and Ahmad Hamid al-Ta'ir, UAE minister of state for financial and industrial affairs and acting minister of education, signed an agreement on educational and scientific cooperation. Afterwards, Dr 'Atif Sidqi and Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad Al Nuhayyn signed another agreement to set up a joint higher committee. They also signed a joint communique on the official Egyptian-UAE talks.

At the conclusion of the final session, Dr Sidqi said the agreement on forming a joint higher committee under the chairmanship of the two countries' prime ministers aims to boost bilateral cooperation in various fields and to follow up the implementation of the agreements signed between the two countries. He noted that the committee will hold regular meetings in Cairo and Abu Dhabi alterantively. [passage omitted]

### Communique on Talks Issued

*JN2309075888 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0520 GMT 23 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, 22 Sep (WAKH)—The Arab Republic of Egypt has expressed appreciation for the prominent role the UAE under His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan assumes to achieve Arab solidarity and coordinate efforts to tackle the Arab nation's causes and for the UAE's eagerness to bolster close cooperation with Egypt.

The UAE and the Arab Republic of Egypt voiced their satisfaction with the initiation of direct negotiations between Iraq and Iran and emphasized the importance of pursuing these negotiations for the attainment of a just and comprehensive peace that will be accepted by the region. The two countries also stressed the importance of devoting regional and international efforts to the major issues between Iraq and Iran namely, a comprehensive peace, the settlement of all problems between Iraq and Iran, and the avoidance of any marginal topics or issues.

This is contained in the joint communique issued in Cairo this evening at the end of the official visit to Egypt by UAE Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad and the delegation accompanying him.

The two countries voice their support for the Palestinian people's uprising in the occupied Arab territories and say they hope that the PLO will succeed in adopting the decision that will realize the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights.

The two countries also express hope that an acceptable solution to all the Lebanese parties will be reached with respect to the presidential elections to safeguard Lebanon's unity and stability.

The UAE and Egypt stress their determination to expand trade exchange between the two countries in implementation of the trade and economic exchange and the encouragement of investment agreement that the two countries signed last July. In this respect, the UAE agrees to participate in the Cairo Islamic fair and to hold the Egyptian products fair in the UAE in December from the premise of the principle of encouraging the promotion of national products of the two countries and the smooth flow of trade between them.

Egypt says it welcomes and appreciates the UAE's participation in Egyptian development ventures, particularly in land reclamation and tourism. The two countries note their satisfaction with the treatment the citizens of each of the two countries receive in the other country.

The joint communique notes that the two sides discussed the possibility of the UAE's participation in financing several major Egyptian projects in industry and electricity. The UAE side expresses its readiness to pursue consultations between the specialized bodies of the two countries in this respect.

The two countries agree to conclude an agreement preventing double taxation and to exchange the draft of this agreement within 1 month. The two countries also agree to study a draft project in the social security sphere.

## Libya

### 110 Freed Chadian Prisoners Leave Tripoli

*LD2709221788 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Bah Mamadou, personal envoy of the OAU secretary-general, left Tripoli today, accompanied by 110 Chadian prisoners released as a gift to Africa by the brother leader of the revolution on the occasion of the OAU's silver jubilee.

Prior to his departure, envoy told a JANA correspondent that Africa hoped that this mission would be happily concluded. He underlined the assistance offered by the Great Jamahiriyah in this domain proceeding from the leader's gift to Africa on the OAU's 25th founding anniversary. [video shows prisoners in line at a departure hall and then boarding a Libyan plane]

A number of released prisoners voiced their thanks and appreciation to the brother leader of the revolution and Arab Libyan people for the good treatment accorded to them during their captivity, and they expressed hope for the establishment of good relations and fruitful cooperation between the Arab Libyan people and the Chadian people. [passage omitted]

### Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Tunisian Official

*LD2509154788 Tripoli JANA in English 0804 GMT 25 Sep 88*

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih [September], JAMAHIRYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution received Sa'd Mustapha, the general delegate of the Republic of Tunisia to Great Jamahiryah, who delivered a handwritten letter to him from his brother Zine El Abidine Ben Ali.

### Official Meets Algerian, Moroccan Ministers

*LD2509140488 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1820 GMT 24 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Tunis 24 Sep JANA—Brother Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi [member of the Revolution Command Council] received at midday today in the Tunisian capital Brother El-Hadi Khediri, member of the Algerian FLN Central Committee and minister of interior, and Brother Driss Basri, minister of interior and information of fraternal Morocco, who are taking part at the proceedings of the Maghreb subcommittee for social, human, and security affairs taking place in the Tunisian capital.

The importance of continuing the dialogue and intensive contacts between the Arab Maghreb countries toward meeting our masses' aspirations and hope for unity was stressed and recent positive developments in the bilateral relations between Great Jamahiriyah, Algeria, and Morocco were reviewed. [passage omitted]

### Jallud Meets Tunisia's Baccouche 24 Sep

*LD2509164488 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1145 GMT 25 Sep 88*

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Sep (JANA)—A meeting was held in Tunis yesterday evening attended by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud, Brother Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, and Brother Hedi Baccouche, Tunisian prime minister.

The meeting was devoted to reviewing the great developments in the fraternal relations between the sons of the one Arab people, and the effective contribution of the two fraternal countries to building a border-free Maghreb on the way to realizing comprehensive Arab unity.

The importance was stressed of increasing contacts and meetings in order to give substance to the aspirations of the Arab masses and to turn them into a tangible reality.

### Sudanese Military Official Arrives on Visit

*LD2609175788 Tripoli JANA in English 1715 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—This morning Staff Major General 'Abd al-Rahman Sulayman 'Abd al-Rahman the director of the provision group of the Armed Forces in sisterly Sudan arrived in Tripoli on a visit to Great Jamahiriyah.

## Sudan

### Museveni Says SPLA Seeking Negotiations

*JN2809105588 Khartoum SUNA in English 1025 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, Sept 28 (SUNA)—President Yoweri Museveni has informed Sudan's charge d'affairs in Kampala that the rebel movement of Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) was ready to negotiate a peaceful

settlement for South Sudan problem and that the SPLA was ready to negotiate with the government in Kampala [as received] any time, it was reported today.

The papers meanwhile quoted state minister at the Foreign Ministry as saying that the ministry did not receive such a message from President Yoweri Museveni. He said the ministry has listened to the news from the radio.

### Southern Council Official Attacks SPLA

*JN2809100688 Khartoum SUNA in English 0948 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, Sept 28 (SUNA)—President of the Council for South Sudan Mr Angelo Beda has attacked the rebel movement of Sudan People's Liberation Army for being behind all the problems facing the south. Beda said the rebel movement gives no consideration to the deterioration situation in the south but instead attacks the unarmed citizens and loots their properties.

Mr. Beda who returned Monday from Waw after a week long visit to Bahr al-Ghazal region said the situation there was badly deteriorating and that inhabitants are suffering from diseases, hunger and malnutrition.

Beda who held a press conference yesterday called on the central government to accelerate efforts to rescue the situation in the region in particular and in the south in general.

### Southern Council Head on Famine, Islamic Laws

*JN2709155088 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Sep (SUNA)—The head of the Southern Council, Angelo Beda, made an important and hasty call to the central government to move immediately to save the situation in Bahr el-Ghazal Province particularly, and the southern region in general. He asked it to deal with the catastrophes there quickly, as was the case in Kurmuk and Qaysan and in the same way it dealt with the recent natural disasters.

This request arose in the news conference he held at noon today after his return from a recent visit to Bahr el-Ghazal Province.

His excellency said that the Armed Forces had worked hard to stop the deterioration in the situation. He indicated that there were large food supplies in the city of Babanusah, but the security situation prevented their transfer to other regions. Flights to the region have also come to a standstill.

Angelo Beda affirmed that he found the food situation in Bahr el-Ghazal Province to be deteriorating badly, especially in the city of Waw. He indicated that there were about 75,000 refugees around the city without shelter. Many diseases have spread among the women and children because of the famine. He added that there were only three doctors.

The head of the Southern Council said the situation in Bahr el-Ghazal Province was merely an example on the situation in the rest of the region. He said: In the northern region, we lost about 62 people as a result of starvation and malnutrition.

His excellency called on all the employees, executive officials, policemen, prison wardens, and fishing guards who had fled to Khartoum to return immediately to Waw, especially the regular forces, to save the situation and support their kinfolk. He also called on doctors because they are urgently needed.

In the news conference today, Angelo Beda stated that the biggest problem facing the region presently is starvation, explaining that circumstances during the Anya Nya 1—the period of the first military rule—were much better than those we are experiencing under the rule of the popular army. The Anya Nya 1 movement had many responsibilities toward its citizens, whereas the popular army movement does not respond to the difficult situation in which the citizens are suffering, such as starvation and poverty. It has attempted to attack women and steal their property and money, not to mention its limited view of the future if it rules the country. On the John Garang movement, he said its problem was that it did not have a political wing to negotiate on behalf of the movement, especially in matters of peace.

On Islamic laws, Angelo Beda said that the time is not right yet. However, he believes that the southern region and national capital should be excluded from these laws.

On the reasons for a delay in assigning the leaders and the rest of the ministers for the southern region, Angelo Beda said the situation dictates that presicely the right man is chosen for the right position. He indicated that those who want to be appointed from Khartoum quickly are the ones who want to speed up the situation. There are some qualified people who are more worthy of nomination.

### Foreign Minister Views Ties with Chad, Kenya

*EA2009202588 Omdurman National Unity Radio in Arabic 1400 GMT 20 Sep 88*

[From the "Review of AL-NAHAR"]

[Text] Dr Husayn Sulayman Abu Salih, the foreign minister, has stressed that Sudan will not allow any Chadian opposition organization to carry out activities against Chad from its territory. Abu Salih told AL-NAHAR that Sudan persistently strives to improve its relations with Chad. He stressed that relations betweeen the two countries were strong.

On Sudanese-Kenyan relations, the foreign minister emphasized that Kenya had not up to now closed down Garang's offices in its territory. He denied that, in any of the talks held in Kenya, Sudan had raised the issue of the disputed Kenyan triangle on the border between the two countries. He said the border issue had not yet been raised.

## Defense Minister on Chadian Opposition Forces

*JN1709183288 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 17 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, Sept. 17—SUNA—A Chadian high level delegation is due here during the upcoming days to hold talks with the officials here on pushing forward the bilateral relations in all prospects, Defense Minister General (RTD) 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil said here today.

The talks will also cover the situation of Ibn Oumar forces, a Chadian armed opposition wing currently stationing in Darfur region in western Sudan, the defense minister said.

Gen. Khalil, member of Sudan's delegation which visited Chad last week said the delegation emphasized to the Chadian side Sudan's commitment to the principle of goodneighboring.

On the forces of Ibn Oumar Gen. Khalil said the delegation had briefed the Chadian officials on the conjunctures accompanied the entry of these forces to Sudan and the measures adopted by the government for containing the situation.

On the other hand a reliable source at the Foreign Ministry said the Chadian Government had expressed satisfaction over the visit paid by the Sudanese delegation and also expressed readiness to contribute positively in overcoming all problems between Chad and Sudan.

## 'Sources' Claim Egypt Reassured About Libya Pact

*PM2709155788 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 26 Sep 88 p 1*

[Unattributed report: "Diplomatic Sources to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Khartoum Assures Cairo: No Merger Unity Agreement With Libya"]

[Text] Cairo, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT bureau—AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned from informed diplomatic sources in Cairo that Egypt has received assurances from the Sudanese Government that there is no agreement to establish merger unity between Sudan and Libya and that Sudan's relations with any state will never be at the expense of Egypt, which has priority in Sudan's foreign policy.

The same sources said that officials of the Sudanese Government and the Unionist Party made a point of giving Egyptian Ambassador in Khartoum Taqiy al-Din al-Shirbini all the facts and information about the recent Libyan-Sudanese agreement. They confirmed their full adherence to all the Egyptian-Sudanese agreements, especially the joint defense agreement.

They also explained that the various Sudanese parties agree that all efforts must now be geared to tackling the effects of the flood catastrophe, rebuilding the devastated areas, and holding extensive contacts with the Arab and foreign states and with Arab and international organizations to secure aid, grants, and loans for the reconstruction of these areas.

The sources further said that Sudanese Information Minister 'Abdallah Muhammad Ahmad conveyed these assurances to Egypt during his recent visit to Cairo where he met with Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi to discuss preparations for the latter's visit to Khartoum next month for talks on ways of Egyptian participation in the reconstruction of the areas hit by the floods.

Egypt has officially maintained silence regarding reports about Libyan-Sudanese unity and internal differences between Sudanese political forces on that issue. No statements were issued in this connection. These reports emerged at a time of increasing tension between Egypt and Libya.

## Bahrain

### Sultan of Brunei Arrives for 3-Day Visit

*JN2409162088 Manama WAKH in English 1540 GMT 24 Sep 88*

[Text] Manama, Sept 24 (GNA)—Sultan of Brunei Muda Bolkiah Hassanal arrived in Manama this afternoon for a three-day official visit to Bahrain.

He was received by H.H the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Crown Prince and Acting Prime Minister Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah and a number of Bahraini ministers and officials.

During the visit, Sultan Bolkiah will hold talks with h.h the amir on bilateral relations, current developments in the region, Arab and Islamic Issues, the situation in Southeast Asia and topics of mutual interest.

The sultan of Brunei is accompanied by the finance minister, general advisor to the sultan of Brunei, the minister of religious affairs and defence undersecretary.

### Discusses Relations With Amir

*JN2409195788 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1755 GMT 24 Sep 88*

[Text] Manama, 24 Sep (WAKH)—Official talks between the Bahraini side headed by His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of the State of Bahrain, and the Bruneian side headed by Sultan Sir Bolkiah Hassanal of the State of Brunei Darussalam were held in Manama this evening.

The session of talks was attended on the Bahraini side by His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, acting heir apparent and prime minister; Yusuf Ahmad al-Shirawi, development and industry minister and minister of state for cabinet affairs; Shaykh Khalid ibn 'Abdallah Al Khalifah, housing minister and acting foreign affairs minister; Habib Ahmad Qasim, commerce and agriculture minister; Staff Major General Khalifah ibn Ahmad Al Khalifah, defense minister, deputy commander in chief of the Army, and head of the escort mission accompanying the guest; and Shaykh 'Ali ibn Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Interior Ministry undersecretary and assistant for emigration and passport affairs.

For the Bruneian side, the session was attended by Finance Minister Pengiran de Guldung [name as received]; Yang Amat Mulya, head of protocol and special adviser to his majesty the sultan; Home Affairs Minister Pehin Orang Kaya Lila [name as received]; and Religious Affairs Minister Pehin Orang Kaya Ratna [name as received]; and Defense Ministry Undersecretary Bang Amat Mulya [name as received].

WAKH has learned that during the talks the amir of Bahrain paid tribute to Bahrain-Brunei relations and voiced hope that this visit will result in strengthening the ties of cooperation binding the two sides in various spheres.

The two sides reviewed areas of bilateral cooperation, especially those related to economic, trade, and cultural spheres. They also affirmed the need to enhance bilateral cooperation in areas of trade to serve the interests of the two countries and peoples. They stressed the need to exchange visits by the officials of the two states.

The two sides reviewed current developments in the Arabian Gulf region and voiced satisfaction over the establishment of peace between Iraq and Iran, as this would serve the wellbeing and interests of the two Muslim countries and peoples as well as the stability and prosperity of the region.

The two sides also discussed current Arab, Islamic, and international issues and the situation in Southeast Asia.

The sultan of Brunei paid tribute to the positive stands of his highness the amir of Bahrain on the issues that are of concern to the Organization of South East Asian Countries. He also voiced admiration for the role of the GCC at international gatherings and with Islamic issues. He praised its role in supporting the Islamic states and praised it's accomplishments.

The sultan of Brunei extended an invitation to his highness the amir of Bahrain to visit the State of Brunei Darussalam. His highness the amir thankfully accepted the invitation, with the understanding that the date of the visit will be fixed later.

### Departs for Morocco

*JN2709125888 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0930 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Manama, 27 Sep (WAKH)—Sultan Sir Bolkiah Hassanal of Brunei concluded an official 4-day visit to Bahrain today and left Manama for Morocco. [passage omitted]

### Foreign Minister Leaves for New York Talks

*JN2309063688 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0530 GMT 23 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Manama, 23 Sep (WAKH)—Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah left Manama for New York early this morning to head the Bahraini delegation to the 43d UN General Assembly session which began last Tuesday. [passage omitted]

### Information Minister Departs for Baghdad

*JN2209114888 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1025 GMT 22 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Manama, 22 Sep (WAKH)—Bahraini Information Minister Tariq 'Abd al-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad left Manama for Baghdad at noon today on a visit to Iraq at the invitation of Iraqi Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim to participate in the opening ceremony of the Babylon world festival for popular arts. [passage omitted]

## Kuwait

### 'No Significant Reduction' in U.S. Gulf Forces

*LD2709094988 Kuwait KUNA in English 0835 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] United Nations, Sept 27 (KUNA)—President Reagan assured the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) countries that there would be no significant reduction in U.S. naval forces in the Gulf and no reduction in U.S. commitment to protect the freedom of navigation, Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy said.

Murphy made his comments at a news briefing Monday following a meeting with the foreign ministers of Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Oman.

The Gulf policy also received prominent mention in a meeting with the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, which took place prior to the talks with the GCC ministers.

Describing the 25-minute talk as "very good and constructive, in substance and in spirit", GCC Secretary-General 'Abdallah Bishara said there was an exchange of views on all issues related to the stability of the area, the Middle East question and bilateral questions."

Earlier in Washington, the White House said, citing reduced tensions in the region, American warships will no longer form convoys to protect U.S. flagged tankers in the Gulf, but will instead use a looser 'accompaniment' strategy to guard the vessels.

White House Spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said Reagan made the decision before he left Washington to address the General Assembly.

Commenting on the U.S. decision, Bishara said what matters to the Gulf nations is freedom of navigation under international law.

### Press Reacts to President Reagan's UN Speech

*LD2709093488 Kuwait KUNA in English 0821 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 27 (KUNA)—A leading Kuwaiti newspaper on Tuesday, accused U.S. President Ronald Reagan of hypocrisy and fueling the arms race in the Middle East.

"It has become customary for American Presidents to make farewell messages that speak of security and peace, though when in office they heaped death and destruction weapons on Israel to keep its supremacy in murdering people," commented the daily AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM. Thanks to Reagan's support, the paper said, Israel introduced chemical weapons to the Middle East, together with nuclear weapons, concussion bombs and all other internationally-outlawed arms.

"All these achievements would not have been possible without President Reagan's support to every work that serves Israel and gives it an edge against its Arab neighbors," the paper commented editorially on Reagan's farewell speech at the U.N. "It is surprising that the American President launched an initiative for holding an international conference to ban the use of chemical weapons while he has not shown enthusiasm for a similar conference to resolve the Middle East problem," the daily went on.

It added that Reagan's desire to become a champion of peace and his knowledge of the secrets of Israel's arms arsenal, of which the United States is the main supplier, have combined to trigger the Reaganite warning that the Middle East might be turning into a chemical battlefield.

English language KUWAIT TIMES also blamed the United States for Israel's unrestrained appetite for arms, particularly chemical and nuclear weapons. "Thanks to unstinted official and public support from the United States, Israel's military industrial complex is unquestionably the largest and most sophisticated in the third world," the paper said. It added that Israel's many agreements with the United States for collaboration in research and development of weapons as well as strategy give it an extraordinary status as a military entity.

"While most of the Arab countries have to depend on imports for their military requirements, Israel has its own manufacturing base, ensuring virtually instant replacement of equipment damaged or lost in action," KUWAIT TIMES said.

"This fact alone gives it an awesome advantage over others in the region. Only the other day, Israel launched a space satellite which is, quite clearly, not a peaceful venture. It is meant to spy on Israel's neighbors," the paper went on. The paper called on the International Atomic Energy Agency to shoulder its responsibility with all seriousness to bring Israel to observe international rules.

### Iraqi Oil Minister Meets With Counterpart

*JN2609143088 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1232 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Sep (INA)—Kuwaiti Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-'Adbi and Iraqi Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim al-Jalabi held a meeting here today to discuss developments in the world oil market.

An authoritative source has told an INA correspondent that the two sides also discussed ways to restabilize the oil market and keep prices from falling. They also discussed how to render a success the OPEC ministers conference to be held in Vienna on 21 October. The Iraqi minister arrived here last night.

### Paper Urges Arabs To Cope With 'New Arms Race'

*JN2609130188 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 24 Sep 88 pp 1, 22*

[Editorial:"The Arab Airspace"]

[Text] We will not pause for long before the column of smoke that was produced by the yellow flame of the missile that carried the first Israeli satellite into space. The skies in the Middle East continue to be densely covered by clouds and dust which reflect the state of anxiety in the region as a result of tension and the unequal balance of power in the region.

The propaganda clamor raised by the United States against Iraq at the instigation of the Zionist lobby may be to pave the way for providing Israel with more weapons of destruction and encourage it to carry out a military adventure within the framework of the so-called deterrence policy—or the preemptive strike.

Defense experts in London and Paris are unanimous that the objective of the Israeli satellite is to monitor activities in the Arab countries depending on the U.S. photographic equipment the satellite contains.

The truth is that we do not exclude the possibility that the U.S.-Israeli campaign against Iraq on the alleged claims of using chemical weapons against the Kurdish rebels was to pave the way for launching the Israeli satellite. This is so that the Arab countries may not have any particular sensitivities toward the U.S. role in the production of the satellite and the missile which carried it and to have them submit to the fait accompli policy—the policy of accepting that Israel has the right to maintain superiority in the sphere of sophisticated military technology and offensive weapons.

While attention in the United States, the United Kingdom, and the FRG was focused on Iraq and on the alleged claims of its use of chemical weapons, Israel was working and operating its computers to launch the satellite. It was no surprise that the U.S. Administration has retracted its accusations after ascertaining that the Israeli satellite has been put into orbit.

Why does the U.S. insist on leveling false accusations against Iraq, holding it materially and morally responsible, and trying to defame its victories and reputation for an action it did not commit and which international experts' reports have refuted and described as baseless and unfounded? Why also this insistence on the formation of an international investigation committee while Israel has rejected all the committees that the United Nations and the Security Council set up to investigate Israel's violations and practises against the Palestinians in the occupied territories?

Over the past 40 years, Israel has been rejecting international resolutions and preventing neutral investigation committees from carrying out their job and no one has punished it or even wondered about its violation of the human rights of Palestinians. The U.S. Congress—which confronted Iraq through draft laws and plans that it speedily submitted and adopted without discussion—cannot surround itself with the same legendary immunity in the face of Arab temptations under the influence of Zionist pressures. [sentence as published]

They sought to frame Iraq for a crime it did not commit while Israel daily commits hundreds of crimes and is rewarded for these crimes by receiving more military and economic assistance, the latest being space technology and U.S. photographic equipment. This equipment has been financed by the funds of Americans and Arabs.

Since this is the case, the Arabs must search the market—an open market—for satellites they can launch into space to cope with the new arms race that the United States helped start in the region, and under which it granted Israel a military privilege that it erroneously believed would achieve peace for Israel in a region where the Arabs are the majority and where survival in this region's plains, mountain slopes, valleys and even airspace can only be determined by the people of the region—the Arabs.

## Qatar

### Iraqi Oil Minister Arrives, Sees Counterpart

*JN2609164188 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Doha, 26 Sep (INA)—Iraqi Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim arrived here from Kuwait this evening on a brief visit to Qatar as part of a tour of Arabian Gulf states. The Iraqi minister will hold talks with his Qatari counterpart, Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, focusing on bilateral cooperation in the oil industry and the exchange of expertise. They will also discuss how to stabilize the world oil market. [passage omitted]

### Discusses Oil Market

*JN2609200388 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Text] Doha, 26 Sep (INA)—Iraqi Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim met here tonight with [Qatari Oil Minister] Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani.

'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim told the INA correspondent in Doha that the talks centered on the current situation in the world oil markets, recent developments and their reflection on OPEC, and ways to promote cooperation between Iraq and Qatar.

The oil minister arrived in Doha from Kuwait earlier today as part of his tour of some OAPEC states.

## Saudi Arabia

### Defense Minister Discusses Israeli Satellite

*LD2809020088 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2215 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Excerpts] Dhahran, 27 Sep—His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defence and aviation, and inspector general, has said that the Armed Forces hospitals were built to serve the Armed Forces—an inseparable part of the Saudi people.

At a press conference this evening at the headquarters of King Fahd medical complex in Dhahran, his royal highness added that 70 percent of these hospitals' resources were allocated to civilian patients, while the military received 30 percent of these resources. [passage omitted]

Answering a question on Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz's remark on Israel's launching of a spy satellite and the extent of its threat to the Arab homeland's security, his royal highness said...Israel has been threatening Arab security since it was founded. However, what I would like to stress to the Saudi people is that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, under the leadership of the custodian of the two holy mosques, the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, will work hard to defend this country and its sanctities.

He added...If Israel can do whatever it wants for itself, we have the absolute freedom to do whatever we want to defend ourselves.

His royal highness also stressed that the Arab solidarity and the Arab mutual support existed, saying they fulfilled all the requirements for the defense of the Arab nation.

Replying to a question on the eagerness of a great number of nationals from Arab states to receive treatment in the Armed Forces hospitals, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said: "The [king's] directives instruct us to do that and it is the Saudi people's custom to be generous to all our Muslim and Arab brethren." [passage omitted]

Answering a question on the possibility of the Arabs joining efforts to launch a satellite for military or civilian purposes, his royal highness said: "I believe that studies are being made and that there is a debate about this matter. It might not be right to divulge what has been and is being done about this subject".

His royal highness indicated that the Arab corporation for military industries was abolished 6 years ago, saying: "Now, serious efforts are being made to establish wider cooperation with sister Egypt. The studies and the intention exist, but so far the directions and plan for such work have not yet been defined." His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz added: "An [word indistinct]-Saudi corporation for (?military) industries has been set up in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This is an independent corporation which has its own board of administration and its own factories. Studies are now being done in earnest by the GCC member states for the establishment of a joint corporation for military industries.

His royal highness continued: "This corporation might cooperate with the brothers in Egypt and other Arab states if we want the establishment of an Arab corporation for (?military) industries under the aegis of the Arab League." [passage omitted]

### Delegate Addresses IAEA Congress in Vienna

*LD2509150988 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Sep 88*

[Text] Saudi Arabia has called on the world to support the Arab draft resolution submitted to the 32d General Congress of the IAEA in Vienna. The resolution calls for regular inspections of and guarantees for the nuclear installations of the Israeli enemy.

In his address to the congress, Ambassador Isa al-Nuwaysir, head of the Saudi delegation and permanent representative to international organizations and institutions in Vienna, reiterated Saudi Arabia buys weapons only to defend itself and not to commit aggression against anyone or threaten peace in the region.

The Kingdom expressed hope that the friends of Israel will support the Arab draft resolution and remind Israel that it should stop its wrong-doings. Ambassador Isa al-Nuwaysir said that the Arab draft resolution supports earlier resolutions of the United Nations and the IAEA. He stressed that these resolutions respond to the general wish—compatible with the constitution of the IAEA—for developing the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in the world and banning the spread of the military use of nuclear energy.

The head of the Saudi delegation stressed that the Arab draft resolution is aimed at removing obstacles to the peaceful use of nuclear energy, removing anxiety and disturbance from the region, and at restoring confidence to the region through stopping the Israeli policy of changing the peaceful use of nuclear energy into military use and of threatening to strike at the peaceful nuclear installations of the countries of the region. He pointed out that the Arab draft resolution, as well as being compatible with previous resolutions of the congress, is moderate in word and tone.

Ambassador Isa al-Nuwaysir refuted the claims of the Israeli delegate that Israel wishes to make the region a demilitarized zone. He said this claim is not true, because Israel is the only one in the region to develop its nuclear military abilities while these intentions do not exist in the other countries of the region. He pointed out that the aim of the Israeli delegate is to obstruct the resolutions of this congress.

The ambassador added: The allegation of the Israeli delegate to the congress that the countries of the region, including Saudi Arabia, buy weapons to threaten peace in the region is false. The Israeli delegate knows, as do Israel's friends who supply it with weapons, that Saudi Arabia buys weapons only to defend itself and not to commit aggression against anyone or threaten peace in the region.

Concluding his speech, the ambassador expressed hope that the 32d General Congress of the IAEA will stand against Israeli aggression, expansion, and extremism and will support the Arab draft resolution presented to it.

## Yemen Arab Republic

### Iraq's Ramadan Arrives for Revolution Anniversary

*JN2509182588 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1640 GMT 25 Sep 88*

[Text] Sanaa, 25 Sep (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, arrived here today at the head of a delegation to participate in celebrations on the 26th anniversary of the YAR revolution.

In a statement to INA correspondent, Ramadan said: I have the honor to convey the greetings and congratulations of President Saddam Husayn and the Iraqi people to President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and the fraternal Yemeni people. I am also pleased to find that the 26th September revolution has achieved progress and prosperity—a fact which strengthens our confidence in the future.

The first deputy prime minister was accorded an official reception in Sanaa Airport by Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, Deputy Prime Minister 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, and a number of ministers and senior officials.

### Meets With 'Abd al-Ghani

*JN2609200888 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1805 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Text] Sanaa, 26 Sep (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, met here today with YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani. They discussed relations between the two fraternal countries and ways to promote them in all fields. The meeting was attended by the Foreign Ministry undersecretary and the Iraqi ambassador in Sanaa. It is noteworthy that Taha Yasin Ramadan is currently visiting Sanaa to participate in celebrations marking the Yemeni revolution's 26th anniversary.

### Makes Departure Statement

*JN2709134388 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Brother Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and his delegation left Sanaa today following a visit of several days to our country, during which he attended our people's celebrations marking the 26th anniversary of the immortal 26 September revolution. He was seen off at Sanaa International Airport by Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and Standing Committee member; Brothers Dr Hasan Muhammad Makki and Mujahid Abu Shawarib, deputy prime ministers and Standing Committee members; a number of brother ministers, Standing Committee members, and officials; and Brother 'Abd Husayn Ibrahim al-Rifa'i, the Iraqi ambassador in Sanaa.

Upon his departure, Brother Taha Yasin Ramadan gave a statement to SABA' news agency expressing his happiness and that of the delegation accompanying him for joining our country—leadership, government, and people—in our celebrations of this dear occasion that placed the YAR on the road of happiness, renaissance, and progress.

He added: What we have seen on the level of the popular community and the Armed Forces, through the training of students and the graduation of the first class from the first military academy—the Command and Staff College—increases our confidence and assurance that this fraternal country is moving along the road of scientific progress. The Arabs everywhere urgently need to deal seriously with science and knowledge.

Concluding his statement, he expressed his best wishes for progress and prosperity for our leadership, government, and people.

### PLO's 'Arafat Departs After Visit on Anniversary

*JN2609135188 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 200 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Excerpts] Brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, PLO chairman, commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, has left Sanaa following a brief visit to our country for this morning's youth parade to mark the 26th anniversary of the immortal September revolution. [passage omitted]

In a predeparture statement, 'Arafat said he met with President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and discussed Arab developments with special emphasis on the Palestinian cause. The Palestinian leader arrived in Sanaa earlier today to join our people's celebrations marking the 26 September revolution. [passage omitted]

### President Receives Military Industry Officials

*JN2709161488 Baghdad INA in English 1508 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Baghdad, Sept. 27, INA—President Saddam Husayn met with the officials of military industrialisation.

During the meeting, the president was acquainted with the new innovations in military industrialisation in various fields. President Husayn appreciated their excellent efforts.

The nearly six-hour meeting was attended by Minister of Industry and Military Industrialisation Mr. Husayn Kamil.

### Awards 'Bravery' Medals

*JN2709164788 Baghdad INA in English 1610 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Baghdad, Sep. 27, INA-President Saddam Husayn has stressed that "without this exceptional giving (by the Iraqis), such results would have not been achieved in Iraq", noting that the basis for this giving is the absolute faith in Iraq and the values and principles of the Arab nation.

The president was speaking at a ceremony during which h.e. [his excellency] awarded Al-Qadisiyah bravery medals to the deputy commander in chief of the Iraqi Armed Forces and Minister of Defence Gen. Adnan Khayrallah; Minister of Culture and Information Latif Nusayyif Yasim; Gen. 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs; Mr. Husayn Kamil Hasan, minister of industry and military industrialization; and a number of Army commanders.

Addressing the awarded, the president said "for eight years I have not seen you neither tired nor your faith or optimism lessened."

"In all countries there are three posts liable for changes. They are the portfolios of information, defence, and foreign affairs, due to the inter-connection between politics, fighting and information, but thank God, these ministers have retained their posts in Iraq over the past eight years."

The president said this honourable outcome would have not been achieved without being blessed by God because it was God who wanted this outcome for Iraq and the Arab nation.

### Addresses Awards Ceremony

*JN2709185588 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, has said: Victory was recorded and completed. We have celebrated it and are still celebrating it. I celebrated it, and the future, with God help, is open for you as a people that is always looking forward to the best.

He was speaking during a ceremony to award the two hero martyrs, Staff Major General Salman Shuja' and Staff Brigadier General Tahir 'Abd al-Rashid, the Al-Rafidayn Order Second Class and two bravery medals for each of them. The Presidential Guard commander and a number of corps commanders and field commanders were also awarded the Al-Qadisiyah Orders and bravery medals during the ceremony.

President Saddam said: The blow dealt to the front of a brigade, division, or corps was not a minor one, but a total defeat from one end of the front to the other and from the farthest to the nearest depths of the Iranian front. The basis of the defeat is the discovery that they exaggerated, went far in their illusions, and deviated from the rights of God and humanity. You showed bravery and courage, and used excellent arms. God willing, we hope to reach a peace agreement under which they live happily and dignified in their country, we live happily and dignified in our country, and every Arab lives a stable life.

The president said: Iraq has begun to occupy its real position. Even if all evil forces on earth gather, we will never move from this position. We will continue to march, recording a new humanitarian status every day in a way that serves the honorable aspiration of the Iraqis to build themselves, achieve prosperity, and assist the Arabs from east to west.

He pointed out that the military industrialization men have manufactured something that makes Iraq one of three states in the world having it.

The awarding ceremony was attended by Staff General 'Adnan Kayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and minister of defense; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information; Ahmad Husayn, head of the presidential office; Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs; Husayn Kamil Hasan, minister of industry and military industrialization; and a number of the Armed Forces General Command members.

### Hammadi on U.S. 'Campaign,' Geneva Talks

*JN2709120088 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 23 Sep 88 pp 1, 11*

[Text] London—Sa'dun Hammadi, RCC member and minister of state for foreign affairs, has stated that there is a disparity in the stands of the UN Security Council

members on the peace negotiations between Iraq and Iran, and the moves in the direction of these countries have come to clarify Iraq's stand.

In a statement to the AL-THAWRAH international edition which is published in London, Hammadi said that the results of the contacts with these countries are positive, even though their reactions have varied. Some of these countries' reacted positively while others were convinced of Iraq's stand but for certain reasons, do not wish to make their stand public.

Hammadi said: What primarily interests us are the intentions of these countries and not their declared stands. Hammadi refused to give the names of these countries. He said: Usually, we do not declare to the press the stands of the big powers. He said that each country has a different stand on the region and some have special relations with Iran.

On the U.S. accusing Iraq of using chemical weapons, Hammadi said that this campaign was first launched by the U.S. media and not by the the U.S. Administration—namely, when THE NEW YORK TIMES and THE WASHINGTON POST published reports and articles written by two journalists whose relationship with Zionist forces is very well known.

Hammadi said that Iraq's victory has scared the Zionist entity. He added that the Zionist entity wanted to maintain the rebellion of Mas'ud Barzani and Al-Talabani in northern Iraq to use this rebellion whenever it wants to preoccupy Iraq.

The Iraqi minister explained that two factors made the Zionist quarters adopt this campaign. The first is that the Zionist entity viewed the termination of the rebellion in the north as a harsh blow against it. How can Iraq maintain this agent pocket following the big victories it had scored and following its expulsion of the Iranian forces from Iraqi territory? The second factor is the U.S. presidential elections and the need to win Zionist votes. That's why the campaign by THE NEW YORK TIMES and THE WASHINGTON POST was launched.

As for why the U.S. Administration did not do anything, Hammadi said that the U.S. Administration had to carry out an action to support its candidate George Bush. On the opposite side, the Democrats vied with one another to carry out the same action. [sentence as published]

Hammadi disclosed a document consisting of the minutes of the news conference held by U.S. State Department Spokesman Charles Redman that clearly demonstrates that the U.S. Administration has no cogent argument or proof to substanitate its accusations on the use of chemical weapons.

Hammadi then read the questions posed by the press and Redman's answers which confirm that he has no evidence and that he also does not know what types of chemical weapons had been used, not to mention that the U.S. Administration has no eyewitnesses on this issue.

Hammadi said that U.S. media had no proof and had used old pictures of the dead in Halabjah when it was occupied by Iranians. Hammadi expressed surprise at this, and said the pictures were of those killed during the fierce battles in Halabjah. He said: Why did the U.S. media not report that they had been killed by Iranian bullets and Iranian shelling? Has it been proved that they were killed as a result of chemical weapons?

In reply to another question on the issue of Iraq's allowing an international team to visit the northern area to investigate the claims on the use of chemical weapons, the minister said: If the United Nations interferes in such an issue, this will constitute a precedent that can be used at any time and in any place in the world to interfere in the domestic affairs of countries. Will the Americans agree to an investigation on how they treat blacks in the United States?

The minister said: We have permitted scores of journalists to visit the area to become acquainted with the true state of affairs. We did not prevent anyone from visiting any part he wants to visit. They could have visited any hospital to ascertain that there are no victims being treated for wounds sustained from chemical weapons.

On the Geneva negotiations and the Iranians' stand in these negotiations, Hammadi said that the Iranians are still at the beginning of the road and will ultimately have to face reality. Iran has lost the war and must act accordingly. It cannot achieve—and we will not permit it to achieve—gains that it failed to attain through war.

On another question on the Shatt al-'Arab and on Iraq's declaration that it is currently studying the possibility of diverting the Shatt al-'Arab, the minister said: We are still at the beginning. No evaluation of the cost or the duration of the implementation of this project has been made yet. However, if the diversion of the Shatt al-'Arab will prevent another war with Iran, this will be a priceless project. He said that the Shatt al-'Arab is an Iraqi waterway and Iran cannot use it to pressure Iraq.

Speaking on oil exports, the minister said that there are three outlets for exporting oil through pipelines and oil exports are proceeding normally.

### Ramadan Returns Following Visit to YAR

*JN2709161388 Baghdad INA in English 1505 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Baghdad, Sept. 27, INA—Member of the Revolution Command Council and Iraqi First Deputy Premier Taha Yasin Ramadan returned to Baghdad today from Sanaa where he attended celebrations marking the 26th anniversary of the revolution in the Yemen Arab Republic.

During his stay there Mr. Ramadan conveyed greetings and congratulations from President Saddam Husayn to President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and expressed Iraq's appreciation for Yemen's stand of support to Iraq.

Mr. Ramadan said that President Salih has reiterated his country's backing to Iraq at the peace negotiations for reaching lasting and comprehensive peace.

### Receives Mexican Delegation

*JN2809134888 Baghdad INA in English 1330 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] Baghdad, Sept 28, INA—Mr. Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy premier today received here visiting delegation of the Mexican Socialist Party led by Mr. Jesus Zambrani, member of the party Executive Council.

During the meeting, Mr. Ramadan stressed importance of consolidating cooperation between the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party and the Mexican Socialist Party in confronting imperialist designs against the developing countries. Mr. Ramadan stressed that such designs would further strengthen the Iraqis', under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn, insistance to continue the pioneering march and achieving victories and restoring permanent peace.

Speaking on his part, Mr. Jesus paid tribute to the large-scale development achieved in Iraq and which reflects the Iraqis' insistance to carry on progress and construction, defending their sovereignty and triumphing over enemies.

### Information Minister Returns From UAE, Oman

*JN2609173488 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Text] Latif Nusayyif Jasim, President leader Saddam Husayn's personal envoy and minister of culture and information, returned to Baghdad this evening following 2 days of visits to the UAE and Oman. Latif Nusayyif Jasim conveyed two oral messages from President leader Saddam Husayn to Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, UAE president, and Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman. The messages deal with the Geneva negotiations between Iraq and Iran, current developments in the region, and relations between Iraq and the two fraternal countries.

### Oil Minister Returns From Gulf Tour

*JN2809112288 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 28 Sep (INA)—Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim returned to Baghdad today following a 3-day tour of Kuwait, Qatar, and the UAE. [passage omitted]

### Kurdish Official Says BCC 'Distorted' Remarks

*JN2609204088 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 MT 26 Sep 88*

[Text] 'Abdorrahman Qasemlu, secretary general of the Kurdish Democratic Party [KDP] of Iran, has denied the statements the BBC attributed to him on the use of chemical weapons in northern Iraq.

In a statement to the INA correspondent in Paris, he said: The BBC has distorted my statements on the use of chemical weapons in northern Iraq. What I said was that during the recent Iraqi Army offensive in the north there was no evidence on the Iraqi forces' use of chemical weapons.

Qasemlu added: Iran used chemical weapons twice against the Iranian Kurds, and we have evidence of this. The first time was in 1982 and the second on 13 August 1987—the KDP foundation anniversary.

### Official Addresses IAEA Meetings in Vienna

*JN2609193888 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1702 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Text] Vienna, 26 Sep (INA)—Dr Rahim 'Abd al-Katil, head of the Iraqi delegation to the meetings of the IAEA board of governors, has stressed Iraq's support for international cooperation in the peaceful applications of atomic energy based on respecting each country's right to determine its own priorities under international supervision as part of the nuclear nonproliferation order.

Addressing the meeting, he said Iraq is concerned about statements by Iranian officials casting doubt on Iran's commitment to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. He added that, according to the provisions of this treaty, the IAEA is the party responsible for ascertaining the parties' commitment to treaty obligations. The IAEA is also dutybound to ascertain that any assistance extended by it or through it should not be used for military purposes or other nonpeaceful applications.

### Oil Tanker Passes Through Strait of Hormuz

*JN2809115388 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1126 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 28 Sep (INA)—A responsible source at the Oil Ministry has told INA that the Iraqi oil tanker "Baba Karkar" passed through the Strait of Hormuz today after it has been loaded with crude oil from Iraqi ports on the Arabian Gulf. [passage omitted]

### Rabin on Plastic Bullets, Antiriot Measures

*TA2709130788 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Plastic bullets give us the opportunity to hit stonethrowers and other agitators positioned beyond stonethrowing range. This was stated today by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in a news conference. The large number of injuries proves that IDF soldiers have been carrying out their missions successfully. Here is an excerpt of his remarks at that news conference:

[Begin Rabin recording] The growing number of injuries does not, in my opinion, indicate an escalation in the incidents. On the contrary, to me it proves the IDF soldiers' improved ability to fulfill their job and attain their mission of effectively handling rioters so we will emerge the winner in every confrontation. In other words, the soldiers see to it that the riots will be dispersed, even if this entails injuries among the rioters. [end recording]

### Rabin: Government Must Abide by Tabah Arbitration

*TA2709174588 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] During a tour of Judaea and Samaria today Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin reacted to reports that the Tabah arbitrators decided against Israel. Our correspondent Arye Gus asked him about the way the government handled the issue.

[Begin Rabin recording] As far as I know the government handled the negotiations during the past 4 years. It was the responsibility of all the components of the governments and not only of one part of it. The decision to go to arbitration was made in the Inner Cabinet and from the moment there is an Inner Cabinet decision it is a government action. No single component of the government was authorized to reach an agreement on arbitration and to deal with the arbitration and all its repercussions.

I believe that in the final analysis there was a government commitment to agree to a compromise, negotiations, or arbitration. This was a commitment from 1982 and the government must abide by its commitments. [end recording]

### Peres Comments on Upcoming Talks With PRC

*TA2709165888 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Telephone interview with Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, who is visiting in New York, by Goni Savir and Dan Shilon—live]

[Excerpt] [Savir] Mr Peres, you are about to meet today with the PRC foreign minister. What do expect to achieve beyond the simple fact that you will be holding a meeting?

[Peres] I expect to conquer China.

[Savir] Perhaps diplomatic relations of some sort?

[Peres] Yes. This is what we are aiming at all the time. We are building up relations slowly. We will not settle all matters in one meeting.

[Shilon] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres in New york, thank you.

[Peres] Thank you.

### No Ties for 'Time Being'

*TA2809065688 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] The PRC will not establish diplomatic relations with Israel for the time being, but will pursue contacts with it, the Chinese foreign minister told Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres last night. We will find the propitious moment to establish diplomatic relations, the Chinese minister pointed out.

Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that toward the end of the meeting, the two ministers talked in private and discussed matters pertaining to bilateral cooperation. Mr Peres said the talks were very good.

The Chinese minister urged Israel to embrace the current worldwide trend toward settling regional conflicts through dialogue and to adopt a realistic approach in compliance with the legitimate demands and the sensible proposals of the Arab countries and the PLO. Foreign Minister Peres will confer with George Shultz this morning.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in English at 0500 GMT on 28 September adds that "the Chinese have slightly changed their position on an international peace conference in the Middle East. They had said they would not oppose this; now their foreign minister has told Mr Peres they want to be an active part of any conference."]

### CSSR Minister Promises Relations 'Within a Year'

*TA2709175488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] The Czechoslovak foreign minister said his country will soon send a delegation of diplomats to Israel to handle its consular affairs here. In addition, a group of officials from the Prague Foreign Trade Ministry will arrive to set up the first company for cooperation with Israel.

The Czechoslovak minister made these remarks in an interview with our correspondent in the United States Shim'on Schiffer after his meeting with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres. The Czechoslovak minister described the meeting as very important and noted that a cornerstone has thus been laid for future relations between Israel and Czechoslovakia.

The Czechoslovak minister promised in the meeting that his country will renew diplomatic relations with Israel within a year.

Mr Peres told our correspondent he is very pleased with this development.

### South Africa Refuses Comment on Aid to Army

*MB2509065488 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 25 Sep 88*

[Text] A British parliamentarian has said the SADF is aiding the Israeli army in controlling Palestinian unrest. (Tony Marlowe), a member of the ruling Conservative Party, says he has been told that South African Army generals dressed in civilian clothes are advising the Israelis on how to curb the Palestinian uprising.

Mr (Marlowe) is on a visit to the occupied West Bank in Gaza Strip. He has not revealed the source of his information. He has also said that the Israeli army's tactics are unjustifiable and that the army is ill-disciplined and brutal.

A spokesman for the SADF has said it is not SADF policy to comment on the movement of its members, either inside or outside South Africa.

### No Comment on RSA Generals

*TA2709212888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin refused to comment this evening on charges by a British parliamentarian that a delegation of generals from South Africa last week secretly visited Judaea and Samaria to assist Israel in dealing with the Palestinian demonstrations.

Minister Rabin told reporters that Israel receives military delegations from many countries and many of them visit Judaea and Samaria, but it is not Israel's custom to react publicly to these visits.

In reply to reporters' questions on charges that the South African generals came to help Israel, Minister Rabin said: I do not think we have to learn from somebody else how to deal with these types of incidents.

### Foreign Ministry Communique Issued on 'Leak'

*TA2709143388 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 27 Sep 88 p 3*

[Report by Gad Li'or]

[Text] Yesterday in Jerusalem the Foreign Ministry spokesman issued an official communique stating that the remarks attributed to President Mubarak regarding Iraqi readiness to make peace with Israel were not really his. Therefore, they could not have been reported on by Israel's ambassador to Cairo.

The report on such an alleged readiness appeared in Israel over the weekend, triggering a furor in Egyptian ruling circles. Prof Shim'on Shamir, Israel's new ambassador to Cairo, was even summoned to the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, where he was asked to clarify the source of that report. Ambassador Shamir immediately explained that the issue was not discussed at all in his meeting with the Egyptian president.

Jerusalem views the denial and the Foreign Ministry's communique as the end of the affair. At the same time, it is known that Egypt is extremely annoyed with the report, which was presented as a leak from a personal conversation between the president and the ambassador. Israel now expects tempers to calm down and relations between the two countries to return to normal.

### Labor Party Sends 'Secret' Plan to PLO

*JN2709171088 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 26 Sep 88 p 1*

[By 'Atif 'Awdah from Rabat]

[Text] AL-ITTIHAD has learned that the Israeli Labor Party has sent secret proposals on peace with the PLO through an Israeli envoy who secretly visited Cairo earlier this month. An Arab diplomatic source told AL-ITTIHAD that 'Ezer Weizman, Israeli minister without portfolio, conveyed these proposals to Cairo and discussed them with Egyptian officials, but the PLO completely rejected them when they were conveyed to it.

The source stressed that Cairo sought to arrange a meeting between Weizman and a ranking Palestinian figure, but this attempt was rejected by both sides. He pointed out Cairo is still exerting efforts to find common denominators between the Israeli Labor Party and the PLO that will open the doors for a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue.

Romania is also making efforts in the same direction. It urged the Labor Party to present peace proposals by which it will abide once it wins in the elections scheduled to be held before the end of this year.

### Former Gaza Mayor Al-Shawwa Dies of Heart Attack

*TA2709195788 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Former Gaza mayor Rashad al-Shawwa died this evening in Gaza of a heart attack. He was 82. Al-Shawwa was a member of one of the richest and most respected families in the Gaza Strip. When his death became known, thousands from all over the Gaza Strip gathered outside his home and many came to pay their respects to the family.

Our correspondent Victor Nahmias reports that in his last year Al-Shawwa was Jordan's de facto consul general in the Gaza Strip. Until his very last day he aspired to a solution of the Palestinian problem in close cooperation with Jordan.

### Druze, Arab Youths Accused of Working for Jibril

*TA2709153088 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Charges against six Druze and Arabs youths from northern Israel were presented today in the Lod military court on suspicion of organizing and acting on behalf of Ahmad Jibril's terrorist organization. According to the charge sheet, the six, five males and a female, aimed to establish the economic and organizational basis of the organization among Druze and Arabs in the north of the country. The court ordered them detained until the completion of proceedings.

## More on Unrest, Related Incidents in Territories

### 1 Killed, 2 Wounded in Gaza

*TA2709135388 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1330 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Two residents of Khan Yunus and Gaza were wounded this morning by plastic bullets when two gatherings were broken up. We have just been informed that a 17-year-old youth was killed in Khan Yunus in the Gaza Strip. The two other casualties were transferred to Al-Nasir and Al-Shifa' hospitals in the Gaza Strip. Additional small disturbances in the Gaza Strip were dispersed without any casualties.

### Gazan Dies of Wounds

*TA2709143688 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] A 17-year-old was killed today in Khan Yunus. He was taken to a hospital in Khan Yunus. The IDF spokesman in Gaza told our correspondent that the circumstances of the youth's death are unknown. A Gaza youth died today of wounds sustained yesterday from plastic bullets. He was flown to Tel Hashomer Hospital where he died of his wounds.

### 2 Wounded by IDF Fire

*TA2709151888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Two rioters were wounded by IDF fire in the village of 'Awarta near Nabulus. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that IDF forces entered the village to carry out searches and detentions. Inhabitants attacked the soldiers and they were forced to open fire.

### 'Masked Youths,' Police Clash

*TA2709162288 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] There were violent clashes again today between the police and dozens of masked youths in the village of Jabal al-Mukabar east of Jerusalem. The youths demonstrated, hurled stones, and burned tires. Our correspondent Yosi Qoren reports that the police are investigating whether or not border policemen yesterday used live ammunition to disperse the demonstrators in the village.

### Curfews on Gaza Strip Camps

*TA2809073188 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] During the night the military government clamped curfews on the refugee camps of Jabalyah, Al-Burayj, Al-Nusayrat, and Al-Shati' in the Gaza Strip. The curfews were imposed in the wake of riots. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that an Arab inhabitant of Rafah was wounded by IDF gunfire during the dispersal of a gathering. Two people were killed and seven injured in yesterday's riots in the Gaza Strip.

[Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on 28 September in a report by Joshua Brilliant and Joel Greenberg on page 1 notes that yesterday "at least 36 people sustained gunshot wounds in clashes with the IDF throughout the Gaza Strip and the West Bank." "Palestinian sources" reported seven "wounded in clashes at Zayta, Fir'awn and Sartah near Tulkarm, at Kafr al-Dik, the Janin refugee camp, Tulkarm and Al-Birah."]

### Spokesman Denies Handshake With Israeli Minister

*JN2709190588 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Amman—The Israeli radio announced in its 1030 newscast today, 27 September 1988, that the Jordanian and Israeli foreign ministers shook hands during a reception President Reagan hosted in New York after he introducing them to each other.

The official Jordanian spokesman would like to stress that this report is absolutely baseless and that it is part of the series of falsehoods broadcast by the Israeli news media every now and then.

### King Husayn, Saddam Husayn Exchange Views

*JN2809153088 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text]A telephone call was held today between His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency Iraqi President Saddam Husayn during which the two leaders exchanged views and consultations on the most prominent issues witnessed by the Arab arena and means to unify ranks and achieve Arab solidarity and reconciliation.

### Saudi Arabia Provides Financial Support

*JN2509153888 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 Sep 88*

[Text] Amman—Dr 'Abd al-Majid Qasim, secretary general of the ministry of finance, has said that the fraternal Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia thankfully transferred to Jordan the fourth installment of its share of Arab financial support for 1988.

He told PETRA that the installment amounts to $59.5 million as decided by the Baghdad summit. He added this reflects the eagerness of the fraternal Saudi government to keep its pan-Arab obligations toward brotherly Arab countries.

### TIMES Views Upcoming U.S.-Egypt-Israel Talks

*JN2509071588 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 25 Sep 88 p 4*

[Editorial: "Nostalgic Trip?"]

[Text] The meeting this week in New York between U.S. President Reagan and the Israeli and Egyptian foreign ministers is intriguing, to say the least. It could be a very useful gathering, given the changing situation in the region, and in light of the roles of each party:

The U.S. is obviously, but very slowly, adopting a different and more constructive tone when it discusses Israeli actions and Arab/Palestinian rights; the Israeli Labour Party is making some fresh new noises about peace possibilities; and Egypt has recently started to play a rejuvenated role in regional affairs, particularly vis-a-vis its ties with the Palestine Liberation Organisation. That's the positive scenario.

The negative scenario would see this meeting as nothing more than a trip down memory lane—a reminder that attempts to resolve the Arab-Israeli confict can never succeed unless they are based on clear Israeli and American recognition of Palestinian national rights in Palestine—in the same manner that the Arab states and the Palestinians today appreciate the need to live with Israel if a permanent peace accord is to materialise.

The Camp David approach to peace has not brought peace and justice to the Middle East. It should not be repeated, because it cannot work.

If the American-Israeli-Egyptian meeting will help pave the way for a more realistic approach to Arab-Israeli peace-making, based on the new opportunities that have emerged in the region following the Palestinian uprising, the PLO's fresh approach to diplomacy and Jordan's disengagement from the Palestinian territories, then these meetings will be widely hailed in the region.

We remain optimistic that rational men will recognise the realities of their world, and will opt for a dynamic future rather than for a nostalgic trip down memory lane.

### Criticizes Israeli 'Militarism'

*JN2809061588 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 28 Sep 88 p 4*

[Editorial: "Of Gun Power and People Power"]

[Text] Is it significant that Palestinian diplomacy is being met with Israeli militarism? Look at the facts. In the past ten days, the Israelis have bombed Palestinian and Lebanese positions in southern Lebanon, increased their use of live ammunition and plastic bullets in the occupied territories, and intensified their application of such measures as curfews, collective punishments and detentions—amidst reports that South African police officials are advising Israel on how to deal with the mass uprising of the Palestinians.

The situation has deteriorated to the point where United Nations officials felt it appropriate to protest to Israel about the nearly indiscriminate use of gunfire by the Israeli army against Palestinians, particularly young children.

If there is a pattern to Israeli madness, it would seem to confirm the fruitlessness of Israel's reliance on military force to quell a nationalistic uprising. The last several decades have clearly indicated that the collective political will of a people, and their national and human rights, cannot forever be denied by the application of brute force. The Israelis do not seem to have learned that lesson, believing as they do that they can lay claim to a higher morality than the rest of the world's peoples.

This is, of course, ludicrous and clearly untenable; it will only guarantee that at some point in the near future the Palestinians, and perhaps other Arab states, may see the lack of results from present Palestinian activism as a sign that more violent methods should be used.

This would exacerbate the "security" threat which the Israelis claim to be putting down with their present policies, and the ultimate consequence would be an escalating cycle of violence which brutalises people on both sides of the conflict. One would have thought that if Israel really sought peace and security, it would recognise that it cannot achieve these goals through recourse to militarism.

### Maintaining Holy Places Foiled Israel's 'Designs'

*JN2409094888 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 24 Sep 88 p 3*

[Text] Cairo (PETRA)—Jordan's decision to maintain its Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs' supervision of Islamic places in the occupied Arab territories was aimed to prevent Israel from seizing the holy shrines and tampering with Islamic sites, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khayyat said in Cairo Thursday.

The minister was addressing a constituent meeting by the World Islamic Council set up to propagate Islam world-wide.

He told the gathering of more than 30 Muslim scholars that his ministry has been entrusted with maintaining links with the holy places to safeguard their sanctity and to organise religious services especially at Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. This step has foiled Israel's designs of taking control of the Islamic places and protected Arab and Islamic heritage, the minister said.

Al-Khayyat briefed the meeting on the Zakat (alms for the poor) Fund which, he said, the Ministry of Awqaf operates to offer monthly assistance to the families of 350 Palestinian martyrs, the wounded and Palestinian students in Jordanian universities cut off from their families in the occupied Palestinian territories.

Following the council meeting, Al-Khayyat told a JORDAN NEWS AGENCY, PETRA, correspondent in Cairo that the delegates endorsed the establishment of the council and considered the 30 scholars and respresentatives of seven Islamic ministries who attended the meeting as members of the constituent assembly.

## Dahir Interviewed on 'Awn Government, Disputes

*JN2709153288 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic*
*26 Sep 88 p 6*

[Interview with Deputy Mikha'il Dahir by Husayn 'Awn in Beirut; date not given]

[Text] ['Awn] For the first time in the history of Lebanese political life since independence, Lebanon is without a president because of the presidential elections crisis and two governments have emerged, struggling over power. How do you view the situation and what does the future hold?

[Dahir] There is a legal argument over the legitimacy of the two governments in Lebanon. I believe that the government that was formed in the last hour of President Amin al-Jumayyil's mandate is not in harmony with the situation in Lebanon because it now only consists of three ministers of the same color. No government can be formed in Lebanon without the participation of all factions. I believe that this is an advanced step for those who are wagering on dividing Lebanon and killing the spirit of coexistence. It also strikes at the ongoing efforts and sets us back many years.

The so-called transitional government has torpedoed all hopes and achievements of reconciliation as well as all efforts to achieve reconciliation. I expected this government, which was born dead and from which three ministers resigned, to retreat and say that it is not fit at the present time to lead the country. Participation in Lebanon must be sound, and no group can decide unless the majority consists of more than half of the members. This means that a majority which is less than half of the members cannot make a decision at all. This is from the constitutional point of view.

I also knew that there were no good intentions because those who formed the government knew in advance that it would be rejected and that the Muslim ministers would reject the ministerial posts. Ceremonies were prepared for the appointment of acting ministers. This means that those who formed the government know that it will not be reconciliatory. This government is a tool to divide Lebanon, not to unite it. Therefore, it is rejected.

['Awn] If you become president, what steps will you take to end the war?

[Dahir] To end the war, we should, before anything else, unite the Army, because it is the government's strong arm. Everything that is illegitimate in Lebanon must be dissolved. Armed manifestations must be removed; crossing points between areas must be opened; the militias must be dissolved; radio stations and all illegitimate media must be silenced; and all facilities must be regained from those who usurped them.

We should depend on the military force on hand after uniting and equipping it. We should also benefit from the presence of the Syrian Arab Army in Lebanon to help us in all areas to curb illegitimate practices, collect arms, and confront the usurpers of power wherever they are in accordance with a security plan laid down by the Council of Ministers. We can ask sisterly Syria to extend its presence in Lebanon to help end the war and carry out the tasks which, at the present time, the Lebanese Army and military forces cannot perform alone.

['Awn] What is your general view on the issue of political reforms, which is the central point of difference in the Lebanese crisis, and how do you believe this issue should be dealt with?

[Dahir] The issue of political reforms recently focused on two important points: first, the cancellation of political sectarianism, and second, participation in the government. We know that our system is a sectarian one. Lebanon consists of many families. The coexistence among these families is ideal if we do not leave gaps through which the enemy can enter. Some of us use tools to carry out mean plots against the Lebanese people and to push them toward fragmentation and partition.

The subject of political sectarianism is topical at present after it was a temporary subject in the basic constitution. Preparations should be made to cancel this sectarian system and prepare people for a logical political system based on the national welfare of all the Lebanese. Rational bases and principles should be adopted in the cancellation process. Several relevant plans were proposed by all parties through the praiseworthy Syrian mediation as well as the European and U.S. mediation.

The result was that some ideas were crystallized to form a higher committee including the president of the Republic, the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, the prime minister, and some ministers to decide within 1 year what measures should be taken to abolish sectarianism. These measures will be studied at the Chamber of Deputies to decide whether they are appropriate or not. These measures will gradually put a final end to political sectarianism. Thus we will have prepared people prior to decisions. All constitutional institutions, that is, the Council of Ministers and the Chamber of Deputies, should participate in this job.

As for participation in power, there are advanced steps in this regard, and I explained them in my platform, as is known. These steps stipulate that participation in decisionmaking should be real. I will not go into detail now. However, I can state that the Council of Ministers, which consists of all the Lebanese spiritual families, should collectively be the decisionmaker. Therefore, I consider the government formed during the last minutes of the previous presidential term a deadly blow to everything we proposed and attained on the level of participation.

['Awn] What is your view of the way to deal with the situation of the south, from which the Lebanese crisis began and with which it is supposed to end?

[Dahir] The south is the wound from which Lebanese and Arab blood is still gushing. It is today under the yoke of Israeli occupation. Therefore, this occupation should be immediately confronted, because Lebanon cannot be a sovereign, free, and independent country while the Israeli enemy is still occupying part of its territory. The world is today opting for the implementation of Resolution No 425, which calls for Israel's withdrawal from all Lebanese territory, particularly the south, which is paying a heavy tax for the Arabs.

Therefore, as soon as matters are settled, a large number of Lebanese Army units will be deployed in all parts of the south, certainly with the support of the UN emergency forces. This, I believe, conforms with an international consensus that the Lebanese Army alone should spread its influence in Lebanese territory up to the international border with Israel.

['Awn] What is the level and type of relations you are looking forward to with the friendly and sisterly Arab states, particularly Syria?

[Dahir] It is certainly in the interests of Lebanon, which is suffering from its wounds, to cooperate with all sisterly and friendly countries. However, the situation in Lebanon cannot be stablized, nor can Lebanon stand up and recover its health and security, without close cooperation with sisterly Syria. We have a common border of 500 km and historical, kinship, and geographical ties to it. We also had a joint struggle for independence. I am confident that we will benefit more and will even be the main beneficiary from our cooperation with it. This means that we will be the ones to benefit more from this cooperation.

Therefore, I believe and trust that whoever imagines or believes that he can run politics in favor of Lebanon while antagonizing sisterly Syria will only be swimming against the current. This does not mean that we do not extend a sincere and faithful hand to all sisterly Arab countries, particularly those that helped us overcome this crisis and did not use us as tools in power struggles.

### Hizballah Urges 'Toppling' of 'Awn Government

*NC2709195588 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Hizballah today distributed leaflets urging the toppling of General 'Awn's government and advocating freedom for the Lebanese to choose the political system they want.

### Statement on Overthrow

*NC2809060488 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] Hizballah has asserted that the only option for Muslims is to insist on confronting the racist ghetto and overthrowing the military government. A statement issued by Hizballah stresses the following:

We are taking a clearcut stand which opposes partition and partitionists, the arbitrary imposition of any political system, and the relinquishment of any Muslim right in Lebanon. We support a public referendum to define the structure and identity of the regime. The first step is to topple the Zionized ghetto and coordinate the efforts of all the powers which reject the Maronite political hegemony in order to achieve this goal and bring about the change which would protect the homeland.

According to Hizballah, the deformed revolutionary grouping which forms the so-called 'Awn military government is the practical representation of the Zionized ghetto.

### 'Awn Says 'Contacts Are Taking Place' With Syria

*NC2709175788 Paris AFP in English 1742 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Beirut, Sept 27 (AFP)—General Michel 'Awn, the prime minister of a transitional military government, said Tuesday that contacts were under way with Syria as part of an effort to pave the way for a Lebanese presidential election.

Gen. 'Awn made the remarks after meeting with two of his six-member government, formed by presidential decree minutes before midnight Thursday when Amin al-Jumayyil ended his six-year non-renewable mandate.

Gen. 'Awn, who is also the Christian commander of the Armed Forces, reiterated that he plans to send an envoy to Syria, a major power broker in Lebanon.

"Contacts are taking place" towards that end, he told reporters. But the general did not provide further details or reveal the identity of the envoy. [passage omitted]

### 'Awn Requests Meeting Between Envoy, Syrians

*NC2809110388 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] In an interview with the BBC, General Michel 'Awn said that he has requested a meeting between an emissary representing him and Syrian officials. He added is still waiting for the Syrian reply so the emissary may depart for Damascus.

### Fadlallah Sees Michel 'Awn as 'U.S. Pawn'

*LD2709224388 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] In a telephone contact with the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the very learned Seyyed Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, one of the leading and combative clergymen of Lebanon, concerning the appointment of Michel 'Awn, the head of the military government of Lebanon, and the recent political developments in that country said: We believe that this is a U.S. conspiracy by means of which the United States is planning to have a greater influence in Lebanon.

Continuing his remarks and emphasizing the illegality of Michel 'Awn's military government, he said: We are against that government because it is not in keeping with the political demands of the Muslims. Michel 'Awn is a U.S. pawn.

Various Lebanese parties and organizations on Monday in a gathering in West Beirut declared the step of Amin Jumayyil, the former Lebanese president, in the forming of a military cabinet, as a Zionist step. In their statement those parties called on active Lebanese parties and organizations to decisively confront the cabinet of Michel 'Awn and to take part in a national committee composed of all national and Islamic groups.

### More on Fadlallah's Views

*NC2809112888 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Telephone interview with Shi'ite Scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah by unidentified correspondent in Tehran; Fadlallah remarks in Arabic with superimposed Persian translation—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] In connection with the appointment of Gen Michel 'Awn as head of the military government in Lebanon, and with the recent political developments in that country, we have telephoned Scholar Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, one of Lebanon's leading clergymen. Scholar Fadlallah, why did the Lebanese parliament not meet to appoint the president?

[Fadlallah] The Lebanese parliament was unable to hold a session because of differences over the appointment of a president. Generally speaking, we think that this is a U.S. plot and the United States plans to establish a greater influence in Lebanon.

[Correspondent] What is your and other sects' in Lebanon opinion on Michel 'Awn's military government?

[Fadlallah] We oppose Michel 'Awn's military government because it does not conform to the political demands of the Muslims and because his appointment is contrary to Lebanon's Constitution. Therefore, we consider the formation of this government as an insult to the Muslims, since Michel 'Awn is a U.S. pawn.

[Correspondent] In view of the fact that the Muslims now form the majority of the population in Lebanon—and this calls for the need to review the Lebanese Constitution—do the Muslims have the strength necessary to impose their views on Lebanon's political scene and to revise the Constitution?

[Fadlallah] The committed Muslims following the line of combatant Islam have propounded as a suitable solution, next to other solutions, the idea of forming an Islamic government because, as others enjoy sovereignty rights, Muslims too have these rights. The current political situation misrepresents the reality in Lebanon given the fact that, because of the Muslim majority in Lebanon, the president should be a Muslim. This requires more time.

[Correspondent] Scholar Fadlallah, what solution do you propose for Lebanon's current problem?

[Fadlallah] I do not think that Lebanon's current problem is a domestic one because the Lebanese issue moves in parallel with the Palestinian issue and with the Middle East problem in general. Therefore, it is difficult to say that the Lebanese issue can be solved separately from the Palestinian issue because there is a strong bond between the two. Thus, generally speaking, the problem of appointing the Lebanese president can be solved within the framework of a political game and within the context of the Palestinian and Israeli problem.

### Iraqi, Egyptian Envoys Comment on Meeting 'Awn

*NC2609102588 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Text] Sabbar al-Hudaythi, the Iraqi charge d'affaires, met Prime Minister Michel 'Awn today. Afterward, he aid: His Excellency Prime Minister Michel 'Awn briefed us on the general situation in brotherly Lebanon. We were satisfied with his vision of the future. 'Awn is for the freedom of the Lebanese to choose their president and for the unity of Lebanon as land, nation, and institutions, and this satisfies us.

Asked if he would hold consultations to help the Lebanese emerge from the crisis the Iraqi official said: Iraq has always taken a clear stand with regard to the brotherly Lebanese people. Iraq will do its best to safeguard the unity of this multi-communal country. We do not imagine that any Lebanese living in this country would ever favor partition. The Iraqi official said that he believes the notion of partition has surfaced because of foreign intervention in Lebanon and foreign occupation. These, he said, are the factors which have created the current crisis, crippled the national will, and obstructed reconciliation among the Lebanese brothers.

For his part, Ambassador Hasan Shash, head of the Egyptian Interests Section in Lebanon, said after a meeting with Prime Minister Michel 'Awn that the time is not right for words and statements. He expressed the

hope that all the Lebanese would be able to make the right decisions, to seek rapprochement through dialogue, and to succeed in electing a president capable of uniting the country and banishing the specter of partition.

**Governmental Source: 'Awn Regime 'Illegitimate'**
*NC2509095588 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 25 Sep 88*

[Text] Commenting on the circular which Army Commander General Michel 'Awn has addressed to public departments, institutions, and municipalities, a governmental source has stated:

All decisions and instructions issued by the so-called military government or its head constitute a usurpation of authority and are considered invalid and nonexistent. Consequently, they do not entail any legal consequences or effects. Employees in public departments, institutions, and municipalities must treat such decisions and instructions on this basis.

The governmental source added: There is no need to remind everyone that this military government is illegitimate from the standpoint of its origin, nature, formation, and configuration. Half of its members refused from the beginning to participate in it. This makes it invalid from birth and invalid legally and constitutionally. Therefore, any meeting this government holds is considered invalid and illegal.

**Presidential Candidate Iddih Interviewed**
*NC2109061388 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2215 GMT 20 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, 20 Sep (MENA)—Lebanese presidential candidate Raymond Iddih has emphasized that, if elected president of Lebanon, he would immediately call on America and the permanent members of the UN Security Council to adopt the necessary measures to force Israel to implement UN Resolution 425, which calls for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the Lebanese territories occupied since March 1978.

In an interview with AL-AHRAM newspaper to be published tomorrow, Wednesday, Iddih said if he were unable to do that, he would apologize for accepting the presidency. He noted that unless he obtains assurances over the withdrawal of the Israeli army and the deployment of the international forces along the Lebanese-Israeli borders in accordance with Security Council Resolution 587 of 1986, he would declare this before international public opinion.

Explaining his campaign, Iddih said the next step he would embark upon following the withdrawal of the Israeli army would be to ask Syria to withdraw its Army from Lebanon. He would then unify the self-divided Lebanese Army and dissolve the Christian and Islamic militia groups, so that a strong and efficient army might deploy throughout Lebanon.

Commenting on reports regarding a U.S.-Syrian agreement on Deputy Mikha'il Dahir for president of Lebanon, Iddih said: I cannot and will not accept U.S.-Syrian interference with regard to the appointment of a candidate for the presidency in Lebanon. I call on everyone in Lebanon to take the same position.

Asked why the Lebanese crisis remains complicated at a time when other regional disputes are being resolved, thanks to the detente between the two superpowers, Iddih said: I believe that the reasons for this is that Israel has an old scheme that goes back to 1919. Israel has ambitions with regard to the Al-Litani River, whose mouth lies north of the city of Tyre. Under this scheme, Israel desires to annex the lands south of the river so that its northern borders would be right on the river.

Commenting on the issue of the Syrian Army's occupation of the largest part of Lebanon, Iddih said this army is deployed in two-thirds of Lebanese territory: In Al-Biqa' valley, 'Akkar, Tripoli, the north until Al-Batrun, and elsewhere. The Syrian Army entered Lebanon at the request of the Phalangist Party, and that gave it some legitimacy. Later this army became the Arab Deterrent Force, on the basis of an Arab League decision, which was put at the disposal of Ilyas Sarkis, the president at the time.

In conclusion, Iddih said that should 23 September pass and Amin al-Jumayyil's term end without the election of a new president of Lebanon, there would be no vacuum as some fear, because a government appointed by President al-Jumayyil before 23 September would, according to the Constitution, take his place and the Chamber of Deputies would remain in open session until a new president were elected.

**Franjiyah 'Not Considering' Withdrawing**
*NC2009134388 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Sep 88*

[Text] Former President Sulayman Franjiyah explained to some visitors today that his nomination for the Presidency still stands. Former Deputy Qabalan 'Isa al-Khuri said that Franjiyah is not considering withdrawing his nomination under any circumstances.

Franjiyah received in Ihdin this morning Deputy Dr Bakhus Hakim and former Deputy Qabalan 'Isa al-Khuri.

**Eastern Deputies Agree on Reelection of Speaker**
*NC2809070088 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] In a statement to the NNA this morning, Deputy Auguste Bakhus said: Should the Chamber of Deputies fail to convene at Mansur Palace or at Al-Najmah square to elect a new chamber speaker during the second half of October, the deputies residing in the eastern areas have agreed among themselves to meet at the house of Deputy

Kazim al-Khalil and reelect Speaker Husayn al-Husayni. He pointed out that a quorum is guaranteed since 42 deputies reside in the eastern areas.

Meanwhile, Bakhus commended the rational patriotic stands of Dr Salim al-Huss in the current critical circumstances which make it incumbent upon everyone to cooperate and coordinate their efforts to help the country ride out its ordeal.

### Shams al-Din, Al-Husayni, Birri Meet 27 Sep

*NC2809063688 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] A meeting was held last night at the residence of Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council. In addition to Shaykh Shams al-Din, the meeting was attended by Chamber Speaker Husayn al-Husayni, Minister Nabih Birri, and Ja'farite Mufti Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan. The discussion during the meeting revolved around the efforts needed to maintain the bridges among the Lebanese and avoid falling in the circle of reactions.

In another development, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri expressed fears over attempts to fragment Lebanon, adding: We now recall what befell Palestine in 1947, particularly since the other side and Israel are hatching plots to flare up the situation throughout Lebanon, although we do not want any military escalation.

### Explosive Device Near UNRWA Office Dismantled

*NC2809091488 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] This morning a military expert dismantled an explosive device made up of 5 kg of TNT and attached to two detonators and a timer. It was located in the square opposite the UNRWA Office in Bi'r Hasan in West Beirut.

## Israeli Forces Continue Military Action

### Ships Transport Lahd Troops

*JN2609161688 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 25 Sep 88 pp 1, 21*

[Text] Beirut—Military sources in East Beirut have disclosed to AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM that Israeli Navy ships transported 450 soldiers of the South Lebanese Army led by Antoine Lahd from the so-called security belt in southern Lebanon to the Port of Juniyah, north of Beirut, the night before last and at dawn yesterday to support and reenforce the Lebanese Christian forces in East Beirut following recent developments in Lebanon and the setting up of a military government by Brigadier General Michel 'Awn, who is close to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil.

The military sources also said that Gen Amnon Shahal, chief of the Israeli military intelligence service, and Gen Ehud Baraq, Israeli deputy chief of staff, accompanied by a senior Mosad officer with the rank of staff brigadier general, paid a secret visit to East Beirut last week and held a lengthy meeting with Brig Gen Michel 'Awn.

The meeting was attended by Samir Ja'ja', military commander of the Phalange forces; and four senior Lebanese officers. At this meeting, they discussed various aspects of the Lebanese crisis, especially the presidential crisis and the Syrian role in Lebanon. They also reached an agreement on some important issues, including Israel's continued support for the Lebanese Christians both militarily and politically.

The sources added that scores of Israeli military and security experts will leave for the eastern sector of Beirut soon. Strict orders were also issued to the Israeli Navy to increase the number of its patrols along the Lebanese coast for fear of new military developments.

### Jets Conduct Mock Raids

*NC2809090988 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] Israeli warplanes conducted a series of mock raids over Sidon and nearby camps at 1120, drawing antiaircraft fire. Sirens were sounded as a precaution against any new aggression.

### Warplanes Fly Over Beirut

*NC2809103888 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] Israeli warplanes broke the sound barrier while flying reconnaissance sorties over the capital at 1240 today.

### Group Claims Attack on Syrians in W. Beirut

*NC2809061388 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] The Khalil 'Akkawi unit of the 9 February Organization has declared responsibility for detonating an explosive device under the airport bridge near a Syrian roadblock in West Beirut last night. The unit said the Syrians sustained casualties.

**Palestine Broadcast Assails Israeli Satellite**
*JN2709133888 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Palestine broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] Brother strugglers, people have been and are still talking about a satellite that was launched by Israel. From the beginning, we say that launching a satellite is an achievement in itself. However, it is not a miracle. We do not say this to play down the issue because it is not in our interest to disregard Israeli armament. Equally, it is also not in our interest to exaggerate issues of armament, particularly Israeli armament. What we want is to give this issue what it deserves away from the Israeli clamor. In this regard, some might ask the following question: Which is more difficult, to assemble a U.S.-made F-16 plane or to produce a satellite? Anyone not specialized in this field would think that making a satellite and launching it is more difficult than assembling a plane, even an F-16, because satellite orbits are in outer space and not in the inner air space like the plane, even if this plane was, once again, an F-16.

In light of this, the reason behind this question becomes clear. If Israel has failed to assemble the F-16 then how can it produce a satellite on its own? Israel may create a clamor with its air industries; however, we know that these industries were threatened with closure last year. The Israeli authorities themselves admitted this. The Americans gave Israel all the F-16 parts and told the Israelis to assemble them. However, the Israelis apologized and admitted their failure to assemble the plane. Of course, the matter was discussed at the time and differences emerged to justify Israel's refusing this project. This was the first light to be shed on the Israeli satellite issue. NASA can recall the second light; namely, President Reagan's encouragement of Israel's participation in the so-called Star Wars program. Thus, the U.S. identity of this satellite, which is described as an Israeli satellite, now becomes clearer. The third revelation has come from Israel itself when an Israeli official announced that this Israeli satellite was produced in cooperation with NASA and the European Space Agency.

After all this, we would like to ask: What is Israel's share, its true contribution to the production of this satellite, described as an Israeli satellite? Israel's contribution does not exceed its contribution to the unsuccessful old project, namely the assembling of F-16's in Israel. This means that Israel's contribution is a very modest one. Once again we say that we do not undervalue any enemy weapon, especially as this satellite is now in Israel's hands. Therefore, the important question is: What new danger does this Israeli weapon pose to the Arabs? Let us recall some past events. The U.S. spy ship "Liberty" was at Israel's disposal during the June 1967 aggression. However, all the U.S. spy satellites were at Israel's disposal during the glorious October war of liberation. So, what is the difference between Israel's possession of a spy satellite and the fact that all the U.S. spy satellites and equipment are in the service of Israel without its possessing them? Morally, there is a difference; practically there is no difference at all. This means there is nothing new in this issue. This Israeli satellite does not add any qualitative thing to Israel's arms, especially as it is not an Israeli weapon, but a U.S. weapon in Israel's hand even if it were described as an Israeli-made satellite. Despite all this, this spy satellite, be it a U.S. or an Israeli one, places a duty before the Arabs that they must not evade; namely, that the Arabs must know that war with Israel cannot be avoided and is coming. The Arabs must prepare themselves for an uneasy future. The way to this serious future was paved by Arab Syria. We mean strategic parity with the Zionist enemy. Arab Syria is continuing to achieve this objective. However, no one will be excused if he does not mobilize his efforts and potential. Arab Syria is seeking to achieve strategic parity with Israel for the sake of all Arabs.

**Mashariqah Returns From Visit to Poland**
*JN2709165888 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Damascus—Dr Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, vice president and deputy chairman of the National Progressive Front, and his delegation returned to Damascus this afternoon after an official and cordial visit of several days to the Polish People's Republic. Dr Mashariqah was seen off at Warsaw airport by Jozef Czyrek, member of the Politburo of the Polish United Workers Party [PUWP] and secretary of the PUWP Central Committee; Kazimierz Barcikowski, member of the PUWP Politburo and first deputy chairman of the Council of State; (Mian Librachenski), chairman of the regional council of the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth; (Jozef), secretary of the movement's central committee; and Ahmad Saqr, Syria's ambassador in the Polish People's Republic.

During his visit, Dr Mashariqah signed a cooperation and friendship agreement between the National Progressive Front and the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth in Poland. He also held a series of meetings with Polish officials, foremost of whom was General Jaruzelski, first secretay of the PUWP and chairman of the Council of State. Mashariqah conveyed to the Polish leader struggler President Hafiz al-Asad's greetings.

During all the meetings, the Polish side hailed the militant position taken by Syria under President Hafiz al-Asad, affirming that Syria constitutes a true progressive force. He also highly appreciated the existing cooperation and friendly relations between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the PUWP and between the two friendly countries and peoples in all areas. It also stressed that Poland's viewpoints are identical to Syria's principled positions on the various topics covered by the talks, especially the central issue of Palestine, the Iraq-Iran war, and issues of peace and armament [passage omitted]

**Foreign Minister Meets Counterparts in New York**
*JN2809063588 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] New York—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' met with Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, in New York yesterday. The talks dealt with bilateral relations and the situation in the region.

Al-Shar' also met with Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez. Syria's permanent UN representative, Ahmad Fathi al-Masri, attended the meeting. The talks focused on the current situation in the region.

Al-Shar' also met with Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans. They discussed bilateral relations and developments in the region.

The foreign minister also met with Brazilian Foreign Minister Roberto Costa de Abreu Sodre. The talks centered on ways to promote bilateral relations and issues of common interest.

**Saudi King Sends Message to Al-Asad**
*LD2809100088 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] President of the Syrian Arab Republic, Hafiz al-Asad, has received a message from the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The message was conveyed by the Saudi minister of education and acting minister of higher education, 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir, when he was recieved by President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus this afternoon.

## Afghanistan

### Najibullah Greets Zhivkov on National Day

*AU2409163288 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 22 Sep 88 p 4*

[Text] Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee, received a greetings telegram from Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the Republic of Afghanistan, on the occasion of Bulgaria's National Day, 9 September.

I am fully convinced that the fraternal relations between our two parties, governments, and peoples will develop and strengthen in the future to the benefit of both our peoples and for the sake of world peace, the telegram reads.

### Pakistani Claim of Airspace Violation Rejected

*LD2809090488 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] In continuation of its false and baseless claims against the Republic of Afghanistan concerning the so-called violation of Pakistan's airspace by Afghan aircraft, the Pakistan Government has once again repeated the same unacceptable claims.

It is interesting that claims by Pakistan against the Republic of Afghanistan and its hostile propaganda occur precisely whenever international meetings are being held to discuss crucial international issues. This time again, the Pakistani authorities are following the same method while the UN General Assembly is in session. They claim that such a violation occured when Afghan aircrat bombed the border areas of Kurram Agency.

The Republic of Afghanistan, which has and will always observe the provisions of Geneva accords, once again resolutely rejects the claims made by the Pakistani authorities.

### 86th Note on Violations Submitted to UN Mission

*LD2809074588 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0451 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] Kabul, Sep 27, BAKHTAR—Eighty sixth notice of the Republic of Afghanistan on flagrant violations by Pakistan from the provisions of Geneva agreements was submitted today to the United Nations Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP).

In the notice strict information on eight instances of Pakistani violations from Article Two Document Number One of Geneva agreements are given. It asks UNGOMAP to investigate the matter and inform Afghan side and representative of the UN secretary general of its results.

### Guerillas Attack Kabul With Rocket Fire

*BK2709163588 Hong Kong AFP in English 1617 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Kabul, Sept 27 (AFP)—Afghan resistance guerrillas attacked the Afghan capital Tuesday with a barrage of rockets, one of which landed at a crowded intersection killing and injuring an undetermined number of people.

An AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE correspondent at a bus station near the intersection minutes after the rocket hit Tuesday night reported seeing a bus, truck, and at least three cars gutted. Human remains were seen scattered over the bloodied roadway. Police and military personnel, working by the light from car headlamps, were seen collecting the human remains and loading them into ambulances.

Diplomatic sources said that at least three rockets fell within 500 meters (yards) of the U.S. Embassy building here, one of them apparently landing in an Afghan Security Forces compound.

Officials were unable to give a casualty figure for the rocket attacks, but bus employee Amin Muhdin estimated that some 40 people were killed or injured at the crowded intersection.

A government source said leaflets had been circulating in Kabul, a city swollen to three million people by war refugees, and added that this was the mujahidin's answer to the arrival home of Afghan astronaut 'Abdul Ahad. Mr. Ahad took part in a Soviet space mission earlier this month, the first Afghan to fly into orbit.

Residents here said several other rockets had fallen in the city earlier in the day, but that none had been as deadly as the one that landed at the intersection of Arianad Road, which runs between two busy bus stations. The intersection is located near the Ministry of Education, but did not affect the building, eyewitnesses said.

### Damage, Casualties Not Known

*LD2709164788 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Some residential areas of Kabul were hit by heavy weapons launched by the criminal extremist elements this morning and this afternoon. BAKHTAR has not yet obtained precise report concerning losses suffered as a result of this criminal action. After obtaining precise figures of material losses and loss of life, the detailed report of the matter will be published.

### 'Extremists' Detonate Landmine; 5 Killed

*LD2709170888 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Criminal extremists have detonated an anti-vehicle mine near Ahmadpur village, Laghman Province, martyring five of our compatriots and injuring another six. A BIA military correspondent reports from Laghman Province that a bus carrying a wedding party hit the mine.

Five extremists were killed yesterday in the environs of Konduz Province and another three were badly wounded. As a result of a mopping up operation which was carried out in Larkhas village in Herat Province, Zar Alam, the ringleader of a band of the Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami group, was also killed.

Another report says that a warmongering group belonging to the Gulbuddin band was crushed by the Armed Forces in Zarmal District, Paktia Province, today. As a result of the operation, six extremists were killed and another four were seriously wounded.

### Mujahidin Offensives in Provinces, Kabul Noted

*BK2709161588 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] According to a report from Afghanistan, the mujahidin have launched many more successful operations in various parts of the country, including Kabul, Samangan, Konduz, Baghlan, Konarha, Nangarhar, Paktia, and Qandahar Provinces. As already reported, the mujahidin have inflicted heavy casualties on the soldiers of the Najibullah administration in an attack on the military installations in Kabul.

The mujahidin took control of the district headquarters of Zurmal, 30 km away from Gardeyz in Paktia Province on last Saturday [24 September]. A report received today says about 150 soldiers of the Kabul administration were killed in this operation. The mujahidin have captured more than 100 soldiers and seized 180 small arms and 9 tanks. Five mujahidin were injured.

In the same province, the mujahidin carried out many operations near Khowst and Nader Shah Kowt area in the same province last week, destroying at least two military posts. The mujahidin attacked a military complex of the Kabul administration in Manzel Bagh and Zende Jan near the provincial capital of Qandahar.

### Council Approves Reorganization of Ministries

*LD2809083188 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] In accordance with the new organizational policy of the Republic of Afghanistan, the Council of Ministers today approved the organizational structure of the Ministry of Information and Culture, the Ministry of Transport, and the State Commission for Labor and Social Security. The Council of Ministers session, chaired by Prime Minister Mohammad Hasan Sharq, discussed a number of issues and made specific decisions.

The Council of Ministers approved the organizational structure of the Ministry of Information and Culture and the Ministry of Transport after comprehensive discussion, and it approved the change of the name of the State Commission for Labor and Social Security to the Central Labor and Social Security Administration in the office of prime minister.

Today's session of the Council of Ministers also discussed the sale of market places at Pol-e Charkhi and (Dasht-e Chamtala), which are outside the Kabul city master plan, and it was decided that the places should be sold at 500 to 550 Afghanis per square meter. The Council of Ministers also approved a number of appointments.

## Bangladesh

### Journalists Strike Over Government Ban on Daily

*BK2709091288 Hong Kong AFP in English 0850 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Dhaka, Sept 27 (AFP)—The Bangladesh capital was without newspapers Tuesday following a wildcat strike by journalists and newspaper employees to protest against a government ban Monday on the local mass-circulation INQILAB daily.

Sources at the Newspaper Hawkers' Union said they had no papers to distribute in Dhaka, which has 285 registered publications, including 15 major dailies.

A government statement Monday said the daily, owned by former Religious Affairs Minister Maulana Abdul Mannan, had been banned under the Special Powers Act of 1974 for publishing "false, baseless and objectionable reports." The government announcement did not specify which reports the newspaper was banned for.

All INQILAB copies were seized Monday.

Mr. Mannan was dismissed from the cabinet by President Hussain Mohammed Ershad in June without any reason being given.

The Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) and other newspaper employees reacted sharply to the sudden ban on INQILAB and organised an immediate strike Monday at all publications, including the government-owned BSS news agency.

More than 200 union leaders and journalists held protest marches and meetings here late Monday, shouting slogans against the ban and calling for an end to all restrictions on the press.

The DUJ has called for a protest rally at the National Press Club here later Tuesday when further action is expected to be announced, union leaders said.

Work resumed normally here Tuesday following Monday's strike, they said.

The widely read INQILAB, whose circulation has reached 100,000, has been known for its anti-Indian and pro-Islamic positions, observers said.

The newspaper was the latest of several to be banned by the government under the rigorous Special Powers Act. Union sources said about 18 dailies and periodicals have been banned so far this year under the act. Some have been allowed to resume publication.

Monday's strike did not affect state-run radio and television whose employees do not belong to the DUJ or other unions.

### Press Council Assails Strike

*BK2709150188 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1330 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] An emergency meeting of the Bangladesh Press Council under Mizanur Rahman Mizan, the deputy chairman of the council, was held today in Dhaka. In a resolution, the meeting expressed deep regret and severely criticized the Dhaka Journalists Union which, without any discussion with the Bangladesh Press Council, unilaterally and hastily decided to stop the publication of newspapers in the country for government's imposition of ban on the daily INQILAB. This was stated in a press communique issued by the Bangladesh Press Council.

Meanwhile, the chief metropolitan magistrate of Dhaka has issued today an arrest warrant against (A.F.A. Bahuddin), editor of the INQILAB, Chief Editor A.K. Mahiuddin, and printer and publisher A.K.M. Salauddin.

BANGLADESH SANGBAD SANGSTHA says that earlier Minister of State for Finance Miauddin Ahmed has brought libel charges against (Bahuddin) under the Criminal Proceedings Act. He described the news published in the 26 September issue of the INQILAB relating to the Customs Department as totally incorrect, baseless, and self-serving. He said that knowing everything the newspaper published that report with the purpose of maligning him.

## India

### Gandhi Comments on China Visit, Burma Situation

*BK2709163488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Se 88*

[Text] The prime minister has declared that there will be no territorial concessions to China during his proposed visit to that country. Mr Rajiv Gandhi made these remarks while speaking to newsmen at the Delhi airport today on return from Bhutan after a 4-day visit. Mr Gandhi said that there is no question of giving any piece of land when he visits China. Much preparation is necessary before any visit takes place to a country as important as China.

Referring to the critical remarks of certain opposition parties about his visit to China, the prime minister asked them to give their perspective on a China policy. Mr Gandhi said that China figured during his discussions with the king of Bhutan in a general manner. Each side explained their own perception regarding China.

About his visit to Bhutan, the prime minister said that India and Bhutan enjoy very close relations and his talks with the king of Bhutan were a follow up of his earlier discussions.

Turning to other issues, Mr Gandhi described the Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev's, recent proposal on Asia-Pacific security as a very positive one. At the same time there are tremendous difficulties on that road and a lot of work has to be done. India will play its part.

On Burma, the prime minister said that he is very sad at the recent developments in that country. Democracy is the only way to restore normalcy in Burma. Mr Gandhi expressed the hope that the current repressions will end soon and democratic process will be restored.

Mr Gandhi also answered a wide-range of questions including relationship with Bangladesh, the Punjab situation, the defamation bill, and the controversy over the visit of the English cricket team. The prime minister regretted Bangladesh's rejection of India's offer of assistance to the flood-hit people of that country. Mr Gandhi said he has no knowledge whether President Ershad will put forward any proposal during his visit to India on joint water management as reported in the section of the press. Mr Gandhi recalled that after the 1985 cyclone hit Bangladesh's Urirchar Island, India had almost reconstructed the village and this assistance was a model for others to follow.

Turning to the domestic matters, the prime minister called upon the press to join the debate on the defamation issue since the government has announced its decision not make the bill a law. He urged the press to differentiate between the freedom of the press and the issue of defamation. The defamation concerns an individual versus an individual. Mr Gandhi explained that if an allegation of defamatory nature is made against an individual, he has no foolproof recourse.

Mr Gandhi denied the allegation that the bill was rushed through. He said the measure was discussed at every level, three times by the cabinet and seven times by the cabinet committee on political affairs. The opinion of the attorney general was also sought. The prime minister said that he had also told the information and broadcasting minister to

discuss the matter with the press council. Many journalists have expressed the view that a dialogue on the defamation issue is necessary. Mr Gandhi also denied that the defamation bill was politically motivated.

About Punjab, the prime minister said that a cabinet subcommittee has been formed to go into all aspects of the issue. Its report is awaited. It is only after the subcommittee gives its report, the government will pursue it further in tackling the problem. Mr Gandhi said that he would soon call the opposition parties for talks on resolving the Punjab problem.

To a question on increasing interference in Punjab by Pakistan, which is now sending trained and armed infiltrators into Jammu and Kashmir, the prime minister said we foresaw this danger when we started sealing the Punjab and Rajasthan border with Pakistan.

The prime minister also declared that India will not issue visas to those players who have sporting links with South Africa or do not conform to the international agreements to discourage the practice of apartheid in sports. The fate of the English cricket tour to India this winter will depend on the British authorities.

### Soviet Delegation Meets With Military Officers

*BK2709130288 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] The high-powered Soviet delegation led by its defense minister, Mr Dimtriy Yazov, had an hour-long meeting with the senior Army and Air Force officers at the Western Command Headquarters in Chandigarh today. The delegation is understood to have discussed matters on strengthening India-Soviet defense cooperation. The delegation has since left for Agra.

### Reagan Meets With Narasimha Rao at UN

*BK2809035088 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] The U.S. President, Mr Reagan, has said that his country is committed to improve relations with India. He said this at a meeting with the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, in New York yesterday. They expressed satisfaction over the understanding between the two countries on transfer of high technology and trade. President Reagan appreciated Mr Rajiv Gandhi's support to the U.S.-Soviet agreement on reduction of intermediate nuclear missiles.

Mr Narasimha Rao is currently in New York to attend the UN General Assembly session.

### Envoy Regrets Pakistan's Raising Issues at UN

*BK2809084588 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] India has reaffirmed that the Simla Agreement is the basis for resolving all outstanding issues between India and Pakistan. Bilateral negotiations and peaceful means are the only instruments through which the India-Pakistan relations can be normalized.

Asserting these views in the UN General Assembly last night, the Indian ambassador, Mr Gharekhan, once again declared that New Delhi gives priority to live in peace and friendship with its neighbors. He regretted the raising of these issues by Pakistan in the forum of the General Assembly.

### External Affairs Minister on Visit to Iraq

*BK2609053088 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Text] The minister of state for external affairs, Mr K.K. Tiwari, has expressed the hope that peace negotiations between Iran and Iraq will succeed, leading to a durable peace in the region. In an exclusive interview to All India Radio Gulf correspondent Jagmohan Mathur at the conclusion of his 5-day tour of Iraq, Mr Tiwari felt that both Iran and Iraq were sincere in their search for peace. He said India expects to play a significant role in the postwar reconstruction of Iraq.

During his visit, Mr Tiwari had wide-ranging discussions with the Iraqi Vice Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council, Mr 'Izzat Ibrahim, and the foreign minister, Mr Tariq 'Aziz. Mr Tiwari had been invited to Iraq specially to attend the international cultural festival at the ancient city of Babylon.

### Delhi Updates Flood Situation, Damages

*BK2809035288 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Excerpts] With the overall flood situation showing signs of improvement, the emphasis has now shifted to rescue and relief operations in the flood-hit states of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, and Haryana.

In Punjab, the situation is better now, except in Ferozepore, where it has worsened with the entry of water in the city area. An official spokesman told our Chandigarh correspondent this morning that 16.7 lakh people in 6,500 villages have been affected by the current floods. The death toll has gone up to 113 with 54 more casualties reported yesterday. About 1 lakh marooned people have been evacuated to safer places; 64,000 of them are being accommodated in 122 relief camps. Helicopters and a large number of motor boats have been placed into service since early this morning for evacuation of marooned people in the Ferozepore and Kapurthala Districts.

In Himachal Pradesh, Air Force helicopters yesterday evacuated over 1,000 people marooned in the Mand area of Kangra District. Work is going on round the clock to restore road communication. An official spokesman told our Simla correspondent this morning that the Pathankot-Dharamshala Road was opened late last night and the Chandigarh-Manali National Highway is likely to be opened today. Meanwhile, the death toll has reached 113 with 4 more casualties reported from Dehra Subdivision of Kangra District. [passage omitted]

In Delhi, the water level in the Yamuna has started receding. At 0500 this morning, it stood at 206.44 meters, which is 2.61 meters above the danger mark. Seven relief camps are now operating. Over 4,000 families have been evacuated from the river banks. Patrolling along the embankments of the river has been intensified.

## Iran

### U.S. Congress Favors Sanctions Against Iraq

*LD2809100488 Tehran IRNA in English 0948 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] London, Sept. 28, IRNA—The overwhelming vote by the House of Representatives to impose sanctions against the Iraqi regime poses a moral dilemma for President Reagan in whether to use his veto to protect his ally Saddam Husayn.

The U.S. House cast 388 votes against 16 in favour of a bill for a trade embargo on Iraq Tuesday because of its "gross violation of international law" in using chemical weapons and followed a move for more severe action from the Senate earlier this month.

Differences between the two measures need to be reconciled before a final version is sent for presidential approval but the White House has already let it be known its opposition to the action.

Speaking at his final valedictory address to the U.N. General Assembly Monday, Reagan attempted to undermine congressional demands by proposing that an international conference be set up to consider action against transgressors of the Geneva Convention which has outlawed the use of chemical weapons for more than 60 years.

Like other Western leaders, the U.S. President has continually evaded bringing Iraq to account for using poison gases in its 8-year war with Iran and in 1987 preferred to send a massive naval force to the Persian Gulf to prop up Baghdad's failing efforts.

The move by Congress is said to have caused grave concern among both U.S. and European businessmen, who had been hoping of lucrative reconstruction contracts in post-war Iraq and one American giant firm working on a petrochemical project is understood to have been told already to suspend operations until the crisis passes.

The selected sanctions approved by the representatives is much waterdowned from those agreed by the Senate but it is more the gesture of action coming from an ally and the implications that Iraq should be cast a pariah that has provoked such a furious response from Baghdad and a headache for Reagan. [sentence as received]

### Gulf 'Headwaters' Cleared of Mines

*LD2709191988 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 27, IRNA—The Navy has totally cleared of mines the headwaters of the Persian Gulf lying in Iranian territory and also major parts of the international waters of the waterway, said Navy Commander Rear Admiral Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan Tuesday.

The Navy commander said that from now on all ships can safely sail in the areas cleared of mines by Iranian minesweepers.

Malekzadegan said an Iranian warship and two guided-missile boats arrived at Imam Khomeyni and Mahshahr ports in southern Iran Tuesday afternoon after clearing the Khawr Musa channel of mines. This indicates the region has been made completely free of mines, he added.

The Navy will continue its mine-sweeping operations in the Persian Gulf until the whole region is cleared, Malekzadegan stressed.

### Khomeyni Meets With SAIRI Leader, Fighters

*LD2809111388 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] A group of fighters from the 9th Badr Division of the Supreme Assembly of Islamic Revolution of Iraq [SAIRI] met with Imam Khomeyni at Hoseyniyeh Mosque this morning. In the course of this meeting, the head of SAIRI, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim, briefed the imam of the ummah on its activities. Paying tribute to martyrs of the Iraqi mujahidin, he said: More than 1,000 fighters of the Iraqi 9th Badr Division gained the honor of martyrdom on the battlefronts.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the imam of the ummah graciously responded to the sentiments expressed by the audience.

**Reporter, Cameraman Taken Prisoner by Iraqis**
*LD2809112288 Tehran IRNA in English 1102 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 28, IRNA—Iraqi militarymen captured a reporter and another cameraman of the Iranian radio and television on the Iranian soil last Wednesday September 21, said an informed source here today. The two, according to the Iranian source, were filing a report for the Iranian radio and television on the return of Halabjah by a group of Iraqi Kurds.

The Kurds had fled the city and sought refuge with the Islamic government immediately after the city was chemically bombed by the Iraqi Air Force several times in mid-March which killed and wounded thousands of civilians. Just a few hours before the first chemical attack on March 16 Halabjah had been liberated by the Iranian forces.

The Iranian source said that the two had been taken prisoner in the presence of a representative of the UN commissary [as received] in charge of the refugees. He said the forced abduction of the Iranian reporter and cameraman is a blatant violation of the spirit of the UN Security Council Resoulution Number 598 which forms the foundation for peace talks between Iran and Iraq.

**Bani-Sadr Says Tehran Has Asked Him To Return**
*AU2809143288 Paris AFP in English 1417 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] Paris, Sept 28 (AFP)—Former Iranian president 'Abolhasan Bani-Sadr said Wednesday his country has asked him repeatedly to return from France where he fled in 1981, but that he had declined.

Interviewed by a privately-run French television network, Mr. Bani-Sadr confirmed reports that the Iranian Government had contacted him "very frequently" and sent emissaries to meet with him several times.

He said the contacts began more than a year ago and were stepped up in the past few weeks, but that he had decided not to go home until "democracy returns to Iran".

Mr. Bani-Sadr said he believed Tehran had made overtures to him because of "the deadlock currently existing in Iran"—both domestically and in foreign policy—with "neither the right wing nor the left wing" having gained the upper hand.

**Musavi Hails Progress in Military Industries**
*LD2709195188 Tehran IRNA in English 1740 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 27, IRNA—Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi inaugurated new workshops manufacturing ammunition and missiles including 107-MM missiles and TNT injection units, at a military complex of the defence industries organization, here today.

During his tour, the premier was acquainted with the latest progress of the defence industries in the fields of ammunition and missiles, especially the mass production of surface-to-surface missiles. The Iranian made surface-to-surface missiles proved quite effective in retaliating Iraqi missile attacks on Iran's residential areas earlier this year.

In a brief speech, Prime Minister Musavi said the Islamic Republic has made great progress in manufacturing military equipment despite being involved in the nearly 8-year-old Iraqi war. Such tremendous progress is necessary in all fields during post-war period, he noted.

"We can take basic steps towards building the country if we rely solely on our powers of ingenuity and innovation," the premier concluded.

**Military Officials Discuss War Situation**
*LD2209234088 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1130 GMT 22 Sep 88*

[Interview with Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khatami, the General Command HQ cultural and publicity assistant; Dr Firozabadi, acting chief of the General Command HQ; Brigadier General Sattari, the Air Force commander; Brigadier General Jalali, the defense minister; and Brother Seyyed Rahim Safavi, acting commander in chief of the IRGC Ground Forces from the "In Line With Officials, in Step With the People" program moderated by unidentified correspondent in Tehran on 22 September—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] I invite Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khatami to talk to us about the 8 years of defence, of resistance, the 8-year fight with the Ba'thist enemy, at the start of this program. Afterwards, we shall get to the questions and other issues. Please, go on.

[Khatami] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I thank the Voice of the Islamic Republic. Holy Defense Week is the week belonging to our fighters and esteemed commanders who have so courageously followed this epic-making event, and all of us here, just like all the martyr-nurturing people of Iran, wish to listen to the points and comments of our commanders and fighters. We would like to serve them. However, because you requested it, I will say a few words at the start of this program and then hope that we will benefit from the presence of the dear commanders and good brothers in the Armed Forces and from our good brother, Dr. Firozabadi, acting commander of the General Command HQ [GCHQ].

We did not want this war. This war was imposed on us and it was quite clear that the objectives of this war were to destroy the Islamic Revolution. But, today, thanks to the grace of God, the enemy has not achieved any of its objectives; yet our nation and our people have become experienced and strong and are better prepared to defend their achievements. This victory is the result of the great

epic which our fighters were able to display at the fronts and behind the fronts; and certainly, while this spirit and this epic exists, victory is ours.

Our Islamic Revolution once again proved that faith is superior to technology and a nation's Islamic faith and religion is more powerful than all the destructive powers in the world. I do hope that this same spirit will continue and that we can walk firmly along this path until the revolution reaches its higher goals.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much. Allow me to ask a question of Dr Firozabadi. The GCHQ, from the time that it was set up and began its new activities, what kinds of tasks has it undertaken and what steps has it taken to better train the Armed Forces?

[Firozabadi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I greet the imam and the martyr-nurturing ummah and the brave fighters. Of course, the martyr-nurturing ummah has been continuously informed about the activities of the GCHQ by the esteemed acting commander in chief of the Armed Forces. There is no need for any elaborate explanations of this topic. The assignments and missions of the GCHQ were set down in the edict that his graciousness the imam, may our souls be sacrificed to him, issued to Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani. Some of its work involved the situation at the fronts and the war.

In the early days when the GCHQ began its work, we were facing sensitive and threatening conditions at the fronts, and the first sessions of the GCHQ were devoted to reviewing the situation there, the state of the forces' preparedness, and the state of our defenses. The GCHQ took some very important and determining measures in this connection.

In the second phase which came about after the ceasefire—we shall call it the post-ceasefire phase—the GCHQ is following three principles. One is the realization of the instructions of the great leader of the revolution and the commander in chief of the Armed Forces to the acting commander in chief. Another is to strengthen the preparedness of forces along the length of the fronts. The third issue is to present the long-term strategy for the tasks of the Armed Forces in the holy defense.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much. [passage omitted] General Jalali, please tell us to what extent the new program for the Army is geared to meeting the current demand for strengthening and reconstructing the defensive power of the country.

[Jalali] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Greetings to the martyr-nurturing ummah and the esteemed imam and the pure soul of the martyrs, and congratulations on the beginning of the 8th year of our holy defense to the pious, honest, and proud people. You see, in the Armed Forces Act there is one clause of particular note, and that is the discernment and clarification of the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran Army within that sacred system. This matter was approved and we obtained it [as heard].

You are aware that this act was presented to the Majlis in the form of a government bill. This means that our people's representatives, after 6 years of efforts, presented the bill to the Majlis and it was subsequently ratified. Right now we are pleased because although the constitution's Clause 143 defined the position of the Army, there was no law pertaining to its implementation. The implementation framework is now legislated for the Army. In 1 week it will be 1 year since this was approved and became law.

This law had certain basic aims relating to meeting the needs of the Army. One of these aims was to save the Army's underprivileged from injustice. For instance, in the previous law the NCO's were prevented from continuing their education, but not in the new law, in which we have even given value to the experience of our brothers in the Army [as heard]. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Dr Firozabadi, at sensitive junctions our heroic people have demonstated great solidarity and matchless self-sacrifice. Please tell us how the General Command Council has established contacts with the people, how it will continue these contacts, and what steps have been taken in order to attract the capabilities of the people.

[Firozabadi] First of all, I would like to say a few words about the comments made about the gains of the war, and I would like to relate that to the question you just asked. Our dear brother, Mr Sattari, described some of the gains of the war in connection with military matters. We have also had many political, social, and economic gains as a result of the war that were very critical and important. They all concern the people and various strata of the people. The war itself, which posed a great threat to Iran, mobilized our people to achieve greater unity and solidarity in order to defend their independence. It caused the various strata of the people, even the children and youths and men and women, to pay attention to the sensitivity of national issues.

Different groups of people in different parts of the country rushed to the fronts; and at the fronts a bond of unity was established heart to heart. In this way the epic spiritual culture, which came about as a result of the victory of the revolution, was extended to all the people, following which Friday prayers became stronger and different gatherings became more important. The outcome of all these cultural and social effects of the war was that the minigroups were expelled from the scene, the hollowness of their slogans were made clear to the people, and their treason in their cooperation with the aliens while the country was in need of unity and defense was made clear to the people. I will briefly discuss some of these points.

In the industrial sectors, in workers groups, in engineering, among the university professors, and those who were working in different sectors, all turned to the task of coordinating the self-sacrifice and devotion of our fighters with technology; they concentrated their efforts in this direction. This caused the technicians and experts to be changed mainly from operators [preceding word in English] into thinking and innovative individuals. This by itself was a factor which produced the sweet fruits of industrial self-sufficiency.

We also should point out the involvement of every single Iranian with the issue of holy defense, including students, employees, and workers. In other words, a bond was forged between the people as athey helped in the war effort. Even an old woman in a village who could not carry arms and did not have a son to send to the fronts donated what she could, thereby contributing to this great spiritual endeavor, and thanked God that she had been given this opportunity.

The same was true of students. Those students who could go to the fronts went to the fronts. Those female students and younger students, by contributing presents to the fighters, were also involved in our sacred defense.

The General Command Council attaches a great deal of important to this role of the people and has thought about it. The decrees of his holiness and imam was also emphasized that there should be a certain arrangement and uniformity in collecting the donations from the public. This issue is currently under discussion in the General Command Council so that we can announce a clear plan to the people. Of course, under present war conditions, this issue is secondary, the first issue being the planning, organization, and strengthening of the fighting units. Later we shall see to the general aspects of the war, an important aspect being popular assistance.

[Correspondent] Now let us ask His Eminence Hojjat-ol Eslam val-Moslemin Dr Khatami what measures have been taken by the GCHQ to facilitate the recruitment of specialists, skilled and university-educated manpower?

[Khatami] The GCHQ was formed following the imam's decree and the appointment of the acting commander in chief. One of the important aims projected for Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani after the decree was to establish coordination among the forces and to make better use of the means available to serve these forces more effectively, in other words, the prevention of repetative work and possibly the formation of parallel organizations. [passage omitted]

We must now try our best to see that all available means are put at the disposal of the entire Armed Forces. For instance, one matter which needs work concerns the greater utilization of the specialized forces in society who can serve the Armed Forces. Of course, right now we are using the specialized forces from universities and other places. For instance, in our military and defense industries, much of the logistical and technical work is related to work being done in universities; this work is coordinated with the services rendered by people and our technical forces. What is important is what we should do in order to use these forces in the most effective way. [passage omitted]

I have two examples regarding our efforts in this respect. One concerns the recruitment of the cultural forces for the fronts and for the fighting forces. A committee has been formed in the office of the deputy for culture and war propaganda within the GCHQ. It is called the Committee for the War and the Front, and now conducts liaison with all the institutions involved in cultural affairs at the fronts in one way or another. The representatives have meetings and coordinate tasks. They have submitted their program, which has been approved in the Council for War Propaganda Policy. [passage omitted]

Furthermore, our dear brother Dr Farhadi in one of his visits to the GCHQ presented a plan regarding better cooperation between university forces and the Armed Forced and the GCHQ. The details of this plan may be known better by Dr Firozabadi. It was approved and, with better programming, it may be possible, God willing, for us to use these forces more harmoniously and with better coordination.

I must stress that one of the important works carried out by the GCHQ is the better utilization of all specialized skills and university sources. The university forces are not a part of the Armed Forces but they can serve these forces. In this connection there have been many policies that we do not have time to discuss here. God willing, when the time is ripe, the appropriate officials will explain the details of these policies. [passage omitted]

[Second unidentified correspondent] Dear listeners, as you are aware, starting tomorrow, 23 September there is a 1-week exhibition organized by the Armed Forces in Mella Park, Laleh Park, and Shahr Park. We are here now in Mella Park. Allow us to talk with Mr Ashtiyani, the official in charge of the self-sufficiency exhibition of the Armed Forces. Mr Ashtiyani, please tell our listeners when this exhibition will open and which forces will be represented in Mella Park. What will their pavilions display?

[Ashtiyani] The exhibition you are talking about has been organized by the three arms of the Armed Forces and the Ministry of Defense. It will begin on 23 September and last until 27 October. This exhibition is related more to self-sufficiency industries and the war trophies of the Armed Forces and the Defense Ministry. The latter is present at the exhibition in the form of the Defense Industries Organization. The Air Force is showing its self-sufficiency capabilities. The Parastu airplane, which is built by the brothers in the Air Force, is being

exhibited. The struggle for self-sufficiency of the Ground Forces will be seen in the parts built by our jihad-seeking brothers in the Ground Forces.

In the Navy pavilion, parts for naval craft and frigates are going to be exhibited. These too have been built by our jihad-seeking brothers. So, on the whole, this is a collection of the activities carried out by the Armed Forces and the Defense Ministry in the course of 8 years of holy defense on the fronts of justice against injustice. [passage omitted]

### Afghan Identification Drive Announced

*LD2609001388 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 25 Sep 88*

[Text] The Aliens and Immigration Office has issued a statement for those Afghans residing in Iran who have not yet been able to take part in the computerized identification project. The office announced: The second phase of this project will be extended to 7 October across the country, and Afghan sisters and brothers can present themselves in person to identification bases. Failure on the part of aliens to participate in the identification project will mean that they will not receive any welfare or social benefits and that they will not be allowed to reside in Iran.

### Kurdish Party Cited on Turkish Treatment of Kurds

*LD2509015088 Tehran IRNA in English 1548 GMT 24 Sep 88*

[Text] London, Sept. 24, IRNA—Iraq's Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) has accused Turkish authorities of coercing Kurdish refugees to go back to Iraq and that officials from Baghdad were being invited to their camps to achieve this.

It further said the Ankara Government was holding back evidence of Iraq's gas attacks and that many chemically injured Kurds, who had managed to escape to Turkey, had been taken away by the authorities.

The KDP in a statement released in London Friday repeated its previous appeal to the international community and world relief agencies to "step in and provide desperately needed humanitarian aid for the victims of war and gas."

The Turkish authorities were "not providing enough shelters, food and medical care" to the Kurds fleeing genocide in Iraq. Many children had died in the past week, many from the cold weather, it said.

The living conditions in the tent made camps were "appalling," the temperature was down towards 5-10 degrees and the severe winter approaching, the Kurds warned "threatens many more lives."

The renewed appeal follows an announcement from Ankara Thursday that 1,000 Kurds were being returned to Iraq after Baghdad's offer of an "amnesty", and was being supervised by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Earlier reports of Kurds returning said several were executed.

The KDP attacked Turkey for aiding the Iraqi regime and asking a Baghdad delegation to visit the refugee camps to intimidate Kurds to return.

"A great deal of anxiety and fear among the refugees" was caused by the actions of Ankara, they were subjected to "harassments" and the authorities were "responding slowly" to the efforts of relief agencies. The refugees "should enjoy U.N. protection," it said.

The statement went on to count that 238 villages in Kurdistan had now been demolished in Iraq's latest campaign while in Irbil Province tens of thousands of Kurds had been forced into resettlements and were not allowed to return home.

According to rough estimates, the new Iraqi chemical attacks have driven over 150,000 Kurds into Turkey, while another 19,000-2,500 [figure as received]—via Turkey—entered Iran and were granted asylum. Kurdish refugees have lauded the humanitarian treatment of the Islamic Republic authorities.

### 200 Iraqi POW's Meet With Families

*LD2509134188 Tehran IRNA in English 1332 GMT 25 Sep 88*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 25, IRNA—About 200 Iraqi POWS met their families at various POW camps throughout the country Sunday in the presence of representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Such meetings have been regularly held since 1985 upon a proposal by the Islamic Republic to ICRC for humanitarian reasons with Iranian officials providing necessary facilities for POWS' relatives to visit Iran.

### IRGC Spokesman Asks Rebels To Surrender

*LD2409153988 Tehran IRNA in English 1759 GMT 23 Sep 88*

[Text] Orumiyeh, West Azerbayjan Prov., Sept. 23, IRNA—Iraqi ruler Saddam Husayn sets forth a new issue every day in order to escape from the question as to who initiated the war, 'Alireza Afshar said today in reference to the U.N. Resolution 598.

The spokesman of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) who is currently here to watch the parade of the Armed Forces on the occasion of the sacred defence anniversary, said this Iraqi measure cannot force the Islamic Republic to give up its indisputable rights.

Afshar referring to Imam Khomeyni's decree on establishment of a 20-million-strong army said an appropriate opportunity is now here for materialisation of this decree with contribution of people from various walks of life.

On the Islamic Republic's power to suppress any likely plots by the remnants of the counter-revolutionaries in Kurdistan region, Afshar advised them to surrender themselves and thereby rid themselves from what he termed "an ominous fate."

Furthermore he expressed Iran's support for the Iraqi Kurdish people who seek asylum in Iran because of Iraqi attacks, especially chemical ones on their hometowns and assured that the Islamic Republic will not spare its support for them. He also announced that 21 commanders of IRGC divisions and command brigades were martyred the Iraqi-imposed war.

### Rahmani Says IRGC Trained 5 Million People

*LD2609195688 Tehran IRNA in English 1835 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 26, IRNA—At least five million people have so far undergone military training at bases of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) throughout the country, said head of the IRGC Basij (Mobilization) Unit Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad 'Ali Rahmani Monday.

Rahmani, speaking on the occasion of the "Sacred Defence Week" (Sept. 22-28) marking the 8th anniversary of Iraqi aggression on the Islamic Republic, added that at least 1.5 million volunteer forces have been despatched to the war fronts since 1985. He said the IRGC Basij unit will seriously pursue the plan to organize and train the 20-million strong Army.

### Mobilization Forces Depart for Border Areas

*LD2809135288 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] On the 7th day of Sacred Defense Week, which has been named the Day for Safeguarding Sacred Defense Values, a large group of volunteer mobilization fighting forces, named the convoy of 40 [reference to the 40th day after Imam Hoseyn's martyrdom, which falls on 2 October], left Ahvaz this morning for the borders of the Islamic homeland. They are from Ahvaz, Dezful, Shushtar, Shadegan, Bandar-e Mahshahr, Dasht-e Azadegan, Andimeshk, Behbahan, Masjed Soleyman, (Izeh), Ramhormoz, Agha Jari, Sar Bandar, Shush, Haft Gel, Ramshir, Gatvand, Lali, and Bagh-e Malek.

Also this morning, a large group of fresh mobilization forces from Qom, accompanied by a group of clergymen from the seminary, named the eighth convoy of the Muhammad Corps allocated to the Sacred Defense Week, and a large group of popular fighting forces from various cities of the Azarbayjan-e Bakhtari Province, left for the country's southern and western borders after some glorious ceremonies.

### War Damage Assessments Continue

*LD2809090?88 Tehran IRNA in English 1653 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 27, IRNA—The following is the continuation of IRNA reports on the losses inflicted on Iranian cities and towns by the Iraqi regime during the 8-year war.

Shahr-e Kord (Chahar Mahall va Bakhtiari Prov.) Iraqi air raids on Shahr-e Kord have caused a loss of more than 400 million rials (over 5,634,000 dlrs.) on housing, eduacational, trade and health units.

Deputy Mayor Mohammad Sadeq Nura'i announcing the above said Iraqi warplanes fired a salvo of eight rockets on two civilian areas of the town on March 11, this year martyring some innocent people and injuring a group of others, in addition to inflicting financial losses.

Nura'i said a loss of over 400 million rials was inflicted on 80 housing units (major and minor damage), two educational centers, telecommunications building and equipment, a health unit, canals, green areas of the city and nine shops. Eight vehicles were totally destroyed while 22 others suffered various degrees of damage, he added.

The official further said Iraqi warplanes violated the airspace of the city many times during the imposed war but were forced to flee by heavy anti-aircraft fire of the Muslim combatants. Several times, Iraqi pilots dropped their bombs outside the city in the desert, he added noting fortunately there were no losses.

Tabriz: The historical northwestern city was many a time the target of enemy air and missile attacks during the 8 year old imposed war. The damage to the city's residential quarters alone totalled rials 10 billions (about dlrs 139 milions), said Mayor Taher Musavi.

He said 2,091 residential units were damaged by the enemy's bombs, missiles, and rockets, out of which 20 per cent are in complete ruins.

Musavi said that some 150 commercial units, dozens of educational centers, and a number of hospitals and clinics had also been bombarded.

In addition to the material loss, 120 civilians were martyred and 500 others were seriously injured, during enemy attacks on the city, he concluded.

Ardabil (Azarbayjan-e Khavari Province); More than 41 civilians were martyred and maimed and upwards of 1.2 billion rials (over dlrs 17 million of financial loss was inflicted by Iraqi bombardment, announced Mayor Hamdollah Bahram-Nezhad.

Some 40 housing and trade units were destroyed and 253 others badly damaged in the course of Iraqi air raid on March 11, 1988, he added.

Esfahan: Iraqi air and missile attacks on the historical city of Esfahan since the start of the imposed-war in 1980, have totally destroyed 1,100 housing units and damaged 4,050 others by 20 to 50 percent, said the official in charge of reconstruction of the city's war-damaged areas 'Abbas Haj Rasuli.

Haj Rasuli said that 242 trade centers were hit by Iraqi rockets and surface-to-surface missiles out of which 144 are in total shambles.

The city's historical monuments could not escape unhurt from the missile and air attacks so much so that parts of the Grand Jami' Mosque and its nearby baazar and the Aqa Nur Mosque suffered extensive damage, he said.

The savage enemy attacks on the city also resulted in the destruction of several educational centers and caused heavy damage to three hospitals, he said.

During Iraqi air attacks on Esfahan (1982, 1986 1987 and 1988), 20,000 residential units and trade centers suffered minor damage, the official said. Among other provincial towns bombed by enemy warplanes during the Iraqi-imposed war were Kashan, Daran and Chadek, he added.

An estimated amount of rials 15 billion (211.2 million) is needed for the reconstruction of the war-damaged areas in Esfahan Province, he said.

In Kashan, the official said, 90 houses and 19 trade centers were destroyed by 20 to 100 percent during Iraqi air attacks on the town.

Daran: Some 132 educational, housing, trade and cultural units worth over 550 million rials (about $7.8 million) have been destroyed during Iraqi air raids on Daran in Esfahan Province.

Head of Daran municipality Mohammad Rezvani announcing the above said some 120 trade units, 107 houses and five educational centers and offices were destroyed in Iraqi bombings.

Rezvani further said the building of theological school of the town as well as over 1,000 housing units were damaged in the savage bombardment.

Chadegan: Mayor of Chadegan (Esfahan Prov) Honarju said that over 250 millions rials (more than 3.6 million dollars) of losses were caused by Iraqi air raids on housing and trade centers of the town. Some 80 housing and trade units were destroyed during two Iraqi bombings, he added.

Damage to religious sites in Khuzestan: The 8 year Iraqi aggression did not even show respect to religious sites, and in the southern province of Khuzestan alone damage to such places was estimated at rials eight billions (over $110 millions).

An official of the provincial Department of Hajj and Awqaf (Endowments) Organization disclosed that some 400 mosques and shrines including Prophet Daniel's (A.S.) [allahu salaam—peace be uponim] tomb at Shush have suffered various degrees of damage.

Of the damaged mosques and shrines, 270 are in and around Abadan, Dezful and Khorramshahr, said the official adding that Dezful's 800 year old Jami' Mosque is among the ancient monuments damaged in Iraqi air raids.

Even under enemy attacks, reconstruction and renovation of ruins was continuously carried out, he said noting that some 200 religious sites in the province were renovated at a cost of two billions rials (over $27 millions).

He said that a number of renovated sites attacked by Iraq for the second time needed further renovation.

Bostan: In Bostan town over 500 houses were destroyed while 50 nearby villages were razed to the ground by the Iraqi invaders.

District Governor 'Ali Alemi disclosing the above said more than 900 housing units, schools and urban facilities were also badly damaged by the enemy, who changed all agricultural lands of the Bostan region into concrete bunkers and embankments.

### Chairman Addresses Disarmament Conference

*LD2009212888 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Sep 88*

[Excerpts] Our London correspondent reports that the disarmament conference, which is being convened in Geneva under the chairmanship of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this afternoon approved its 1988 annual report for presentation to the UN General Assembly. This 140-page report is prepared by the Special Disarmament Committee, the Committee for the Prevention of Arms Race in Space, the Radiological and Radioactive Weapons Committee, and the committee in charge of security umbrellas for countries not possessing nuclear weapons. The Islamic Republic of Iran, as the head of the conference, will submit this report on 19 October to the annual UN General Assembly session in New York.

Dr 'Ali Shams Ardekani, the Iranian chairman of the disarmament conference, this afternoon gave a closing speech to the conference. He said: We live in a world in which aggressors still deny others the opportunity of living. However, the strong desire for disarmament is a ray of hope for mankind. He said: My country, Iran, which has been a victim of one of the bloodiest aggressions of contemporary history, serves as a prime example for the need to implement such measures.

I am happy that the disarmament hall has been designated as the venue for the Iran-Iraq peace talks. We hope that these efforts will lead to the achievement of a comprehensive, just, honorable, and lasting peace, and that our nation will be given the opportunity, after years of foreign domination which have been exacerbated by the imposed war, to play a suitable role in establishing international peace and security.

The Iranian disarmament conference chairman assailed the use of inhumane weapons against his country. He stated: We saw how the Iraqi forces extended the chemical massacre of Iranian civilians and military forces to include the Iraqi Kurds. Meanwhile, the failure of the international community to take preventative measures has been even more distressing than the crimes themselves.

Dr Shams Ardekani added: The president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in his message to the disarmament conference, referred to the shortcomings in the regulations pertaining to the use of chemical weapons, massacres, and other crimes against humanity. We hope they will soon be eliminated so that we can quickly prepare documents on the banning of the production, development, storage, proliferation, and use of chemical weapons. [passage omitted]

### Delegate Addresses 80th IPU Session in Sofia

*LD2509195688 Tehran IRNA in English 1850 GMT 25 Sep 88*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 25, IRNA—The 1975 accord and its annexes clearly define ways for settling any dispute between Iran and Iraq including issues concerning land and water borders.

Announcing the above at the 80th session of the Interparliamentary Union (IPU) in Sofia, Bulgaria, Sunday, head of Iran's delegation Ahmad Azizi added that the Islamic Republic is fully prepared to dredge the Arvand River, according to the articles of U.N. Resolution 598 and based on the 1975 accord.

Azizi drawing attention of international bodies towards Iraq's undermining of the resolution said if international circles are ready to tackle the issue of aggression and condemn the aggressor seriously and justly based on the contents of Resolution 598, it can be claimed that mankind's quest for peace and real security in the world is not in vain.

Outlining the course of the Iraqi imposed war, including Iraq's war crimes and acts which are contrary to international regulations, and also obstacles created by Baghdad in the way of peace talks, Azizi noted that the Iraqi regime, by paying scant regard to the international laws, has pursued an expansionist policy.

Meanwhile, Iran's parliamentary delegation in a meeting with Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti in Sofia Saturday briefed him on the Islamic Republic's stance towards the Geneva peace talks and Iraq's undermining of them.

The delegation also met separately with Bulgarian Foreign Trade Minister Khristo Khristov and head of Foreign Affairs Commission of that country's parliament Milko Balev in Sofia the same day. In the meetings, the two sides discussed expansion of mutual ties, especially parliamentary relations, and Iran's viewpoint regarding U.N. Resolution 598.

Some 500 parliamentarians from 96 countries, including the Islamic Republic, are participating in the 80th session of the IPU which started Monday to discuss human rights and the fight against apartheid.

### Iravani Leads Delegation to World Bank Talks

*LD2509094788 Tehran IRNA in English 0906 GMT 25 Sep 88*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 25, IRNA—Minister of Economic and Financial Affairs Mohammad Javad Iravani heading a delegation left here for West Berlin to take part at the joint annual meeting of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF). Iravani is accompanied by governor of the Central Bank, Majid Qasemi and several economic and banking officials of the country.

Before departure, Iravani said that they will present Iran's viewpoints on international economic issues to the meet.

The 43rd joint meet to be held September 27-29 will discuss transfer of financial resources to meet the needs of economic growth, elimination of poverty and deprivation in backward countries, the issue of debts and finding reasonable ways to adjust payments and interest rates in the economic growth of the indebted countries.

It will also consider allocation of special drawing rights (SDR) in the interest of developing countries, increase of international cash, investigation of economic adjustment programs in developing countries.

The meet will study increase in assets of financial and professional organisation of the IMF and World Bank and a general increase in the capital of the World Bank, said Iravani.

During his stay in Berlin, the Iranian minister is to hold talks with German officials and discuss a recent letter of understanding signed between the two countries as well as future mutual cooperation.

An Iranian delegation led by Deputy Minister of Economic and Financial Affairs 'Ali Majedi participated in the meeting of the deputy finance ministers of the group-24 countries of the World Bank and IMF which was held in September 22-24.

**Memorandum of Understanding Signed With Indonesia**
*LD2609123788 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Text] The Indonesian foreign trade minister, who is heading an economic delegation to Iran, left Tehran this morning after signing a memorandum of understanding. He was formally seen off by the acting commerce minister. According to the Central News Unit, in an interview the Indonesian minister made reference to the $150 million bilateral trade figure and said: In return for receiving oil, Indonesia will export goods needed by Iran, such as natural rubber, tin, tea, paper, and printing equipment.

On the expansion of bilateral relations, he said: The preliminary steps have been taken for holding joint meetings.

It is noteworthy that the Indonesian minister, during his 4-day visit to Tehran, met and conferred with the oil minister, the acting commerce minister, under secretaries of the Heavy Industries Ministry, and Foreign Ministry and Central Bank officials.

**Further on Trade Agreement**
*LD2609163088 Tehran IRNA in English 1620 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 26, IRNA—Tehran will export dls. 150 million worth of light crude of Jakarta in return for paper, chemical fertilizers, rubber, tin and tea. The agreement was reached totally at the end of the visit of Indonesian minister.

The Indonesian minister who arrived here last Friday spoke briefly to reporters before leaving Tehran. He said the trip was aimed at expansion of bilateral relations, and to this end an experts delegation comprising representatives of the Indonesian Government and private sector had already travelled to Tehran to explore the possibilities.

According to the Indonesian minister, the letter of understanding will help boost Tehran-Jakarta trade and industrial cooperation. He expressed hope that major steps will be taken for furthering mutual relations.

Vahaji [deputy minister for commerce] said in response that Iran has presented a list of export items to Indonesia which wil be shipped after agreements are reached.

The Indonesian minister visited the recently concluded 14th Tehran International Trade Fair and also held talks with several Iranian officials.

**'Voice and Vision' Director on Budget Problems**
*NC2809092988 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] Mr Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani, managing director of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has visited Zahedan to see how the implementation of the project for the powerful medium-wave radio transmitter is progressing and to inspect the Zahedan Voice and Vision organization.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani gave an interview to a Central News Unit correspondent, in which he spoke about the activities of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran in connection with the implementation of plans for further radio and television coverage in the provinces and border areas. He also discussed the lack of success in this field.

He said: After the victory of the Islamic Revolution and in view of the special aspects of the revolution, our enemies, namely, the neighboring countries, began to broadcast stereotyped programs from various radio and television channels. In order to confront this plot by world arrogance, the Voice and Vision took certain steps, particularly between 1360 and 1364 [1981-1985], including the establishment of two television and two radio channels, a short-wave radio transmitter for broadcasts abroad, a network for the country's defense line, and an FM network.

He added: We need finance, plans, and manpower in order to strengthen and expand our radio and television stations. We have the plans and the manpower; however, because a shortage of finance, some of the plans have now been postponed or the pace of their implementation has slowed.

On the significance of the Voice and Vision and its problems in meeting the country's cultural needs, he said:

[Begin Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani recording] His holiness the imam and the high-ranking officials of the country consider the Voice and Vision to be a sensitive organ and have emphasized its needs as much as they have emphasized the needs of the war. Our problems, unfortunately, are with the executive branch dealing with the budget and with those in charge of the country's budget. Specifically, these are the Ministry of Plan and Budget, the Foreign Exchange Allocation Committee—which includes the Central Bank—and some other ministries, such as the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance. The reason for this, I think, and there are obvious examples of it, is that these gentlemen and officials are revolutionary people who want to work.

However, the problem is that in these ministries, in the Ministry of Plan and Budget and so on, there is no attention given to cultural matters. In other words, the prevailing atmosphere in these places is economic, and they regard a plan or a project merely from an economic point of view. They allocate funds on the basis of economic returns and not on the cultural and propaganda value a project may have.

As a result, we see that although his holiness the imam, the officials, and even the Majlis, which comprises a large number of people, place a high value on the Voice and Vision and consider it to be of great importance, on a par with the war, nevertheless when the matter goes to the Ministry of Plan and Budget or to the Central Bank it is given low priority. [end recording]

The managing director of the Voice and Vision organization went on to point out that our enemies who fear the revolution, our culture, and our values have made good investments and set up several television and radio channels on our borders. He expressed the hope that the government would pay more attention to cultural issues and particularly to the problems faced by the Voice and Vision in propagating the culture of the Islamic Revolution.

**Commentary on Indian, Pakistani Nuclear Programs**
*NC2109114688 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 21 Sep 88*

[Central News Unit Research Group commentary]

[Text] It is not the first time that reports on Pakistan's possible access to nuclear weapons have been disseminated by the Eastern and Western media, but the threatening tone of the Soviet Government spokesman's remarks yesterday, in which he warned that, in the event Pakistan gains access to nuclear weapons, the Soviet Union will not remain a silent spectator, is one which should be discussed and assessed.

According to observers of India-Pakistan affairs, the latest Soviet position on Pakistan's possible and almost definite access to nuclear weapons and that, in the event this is confirmed, a new situation will be created in the entire region, is in fact a response to India's apprehension that it may become embroiled in a nuclear arms race with its neighbor, Pakistan. Even though Pakistani officials have declared repeatedly that their country's nuclear program is a peaceful one and that Pakistan is willing to enter into a bilateral accord with India allowing the inspection of their respective nuclear installations, neither India nor Pakistan are signatories to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty [NPT] of 1970.

In 1974, India carried out a nuclear test, which was termed by the then Indian prime minister, Indira Gandhi, as a peaceful nuclear explosion. Following India's first testing of a nuclear device, the violent underground explosion which shook the Rajasthan desert and caused a crater reaching a depth of 10 meters and a radius of 100 meters, Pakistan's resolve to possess such a source of power was accelerated.

The issue of the manufacture of a nuclear bomb, whether on the part of Pakistan or of India, is an important one within the framework of the difficult relations between these two neighboring countries. India and Pakistan have fought three wars with each other since their independence from British colonialism in 1947. The memories of these 1947, 1965, and 1971 wars have resulted in permanent tension in Indo-Pakistani relations.

This issue, which also figures in the two superpowers' strategy and the mutual accord between the United States and the Soviet Union, has resulted in an armed peace between India and Pakistan. New Delhi has stepped up its criticism of its neighbor more than ever for preparing to manufacture a nuclear bomb. Islamabad also is defending itself.

In the past few years, U.S. senators and the Reagan government have constantly pressured Pakistan to sign the NPT and to put all its nuclear installations under international supervision. Pakistani authorities respond by stating that their country cannot take the risk of signing this treaty until India does the same.

The Islamabad circles cite the example of Egypt, which signed the treaty under U.S. pressure on the assurance that Israel would join the signatories. It may be recalled that the regime occupying Jerusalem has not yet signed the NPT. According to political experts in Southwest Asia, the Reagan government's approval of a 6-year plan for economic-military assistance to Pakistan, which approximates $4.20 billion and will naturally include the dispatch of modern armaments to Pakistan—thus applying internal pressure on Rajiv Gandhi in this regard—has resulted in the latter's warning of a revised view on his country's going nuclear.

According to political observers, everything depends on Pakistan's progress in manufacturing nuclear weapons. Therefore, Indian military analysts will use the same strategic ambiguity on reports of its progress in this field, as Pakistan did when there were reports of access to nuclear weapons. In any case, it may be said that in the Indian Government, those who are clamoring for a path toward [words indistinct] are in the majority and, therefore, even though India has repeatedly said that it does not wish to manufacture an atomic bomb, it wants to have this option.

Despite the Indian claims of restraint in the field of nuclear weapons production, reports in this regard state that India has initiated work on manufacturing nuclear weapons. In the East and West, the opinion prevails that both India and Pakistan are capable of swiftly gaining access to atomic bombs if they have not done so already.

Observers believe that despite the ban on the proliferation of nuclear weapons, the appearance of these weapons on the India-Pakistan subcontinent may well assist the establishment of peace in the region and may serve as a foil to Indian preponderance in the field of strategic weapons.

## Nepal

### King Departs To Visit SAARC Capitals 28 Sep

*BK2809092088 Hong Kong AFP in English 0902 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] Kathmandu, Sept 28 (AFP)—King Birendra of Nepal, chairman of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), left here Wednesday for Colombo as part of a tour of SAARC capitals, official sources said.

Foreign Ministry sources said King Birendra and Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene would discuss the fourth summit of SAARC—grouping Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, the Maldives and Bhutan—due to be held in Islamabad in December as well as regional and bilateral ties.

The king, accompanied by Queen Aishworya, Foreign Minister Shailendra Kumar Upadhyaya and other senior officials will fly to the Maldives capital of Male later Wednesday for talks with President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom.

He will meet President Ghulam Ishaq Khan in Islamabad Thursday, then fly to New Delhi to meet Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi for talks. The king will return home from India on Friday.

An official source said the royal couple would conclude their round of SAARC capitals with an overnight visit October 5 to Bhutan and to Dhaka on October 6.

## Pakistan

### Foreign Minister Addresses UN, Meets Reagan

*BK2809053188 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan addressing the UN General Assembly last night stressed that the world body should continue playing its role in Afghanistan so that all foreign troops are withdrawn and an interim government is formed through negotiations between various Afghan groups.

He said establishment of peace in Afghanistan is very important for us. The foreign minister said the courage of the Afghan people to resist external aggression will constitute the most important factor in the establishment of peace.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said the Geneva accords relate to the external aspects of the Afghanistan problem. The accords, he added, could not bring peace in Afghanistan and clashes continue unabated in that country. Details of the foreign minister's speech are still coming in.

Earlier, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan met President Reagan in New York yesterday and gave him a letter from President Ghulam Ishaq Khan. The meeting lasted for about half an hour. The foreign minister was accompanied by Pakistani Ambassador Jamshed Marker, the director general of the Foreign Ministry, and the additional foreign secretary.

Afterwards, the foreign minister said he thanked President Reagan for the assurance of support he conveyed publicly and in his letter to President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and for his deep interest in a strong and stable Pakistan, irrespective of whichever government is in power. He said during President Reagan's 8 years in office a new chapter in Pakistani-U.S. relations had opened.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said he reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to the Geneva accords on Afghanistan. He said as the two parties are moving toward a comprehensive settlement, Pakistan hopes the trust, cooperation, and support between the two countries will continue. He said the cooperation in various fields, including defense, constitutes the primary element of Pakistan's relations with the United States. Pakistan has gained the trust [of the U.S.] by its strict adherence to principled policies.

He said the Pakistani delegation will strive to achieve consensus on the resolution on Afghanistan at the current General Assembly session, which calls for the establishment of a broad-based government in Afghanistan and the return of Afghan refugees to their homes.

The foreign minister said he told President Reagan that President Ghulam Ishaq Khan could not come to New York to attend the General Assembly session because of his preoccupation with organizing elections in Pakistan. He said he congratulated and thanked the U.S. President for pursuing a successful foreign policy, particularly for the support for Pakistan's stand on Afghanistan.

President Reagan, he said, expressed his deep condolences on the death of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in the tragic air crash. In a brief conversation with reporters before the meeting, President Reagan said relations between the United States and Pakistan are very fine and there are no problems between them.

### Further on UN Speech

*BK2809061788 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0500 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has urged the United Nations to continue playing its role in Afghanistan until the Geneva accords are completely

implemented, all foreign forces are withdrawn from Afghanistan, and a broad-based interim government is established in that country through negotiations between various Afghan groups.

Addressing the UN General Assembly last night, Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that establishment of peace in Afghanistan is very important for us. He said the Soviet-backed Kabul regime has committed hundreds of violations of Pakistan's airspace. He demanded the implementation of the Geneva accords.

The foreign minister said that in addition to armed aggressions there has been a spurt in terrorist activities as well. A total of 387 territorial and airspace violations were committed since the Geneva accords in which 40 people were killed and 114 injured.

The foreign minister welcomed the appointment of Prince Sadruddin Agha Khan as the UN coordinator for economic and humanitarian aid for Afghan people. He hoped these humanitarian steps would not be manipulated for political objectives.

### High Court Orders Elections Held 16 November

*BK2709153388 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] The Lahore High Court today gave verdict against reviving the Punjab [provincial] Assembly and the National Assembly. The court, however, ruled that the reasons given for the dissolution of these assemblies are not according to the law.

A full bench of the High Court giving verdict on the writ petitions against the dissolution of these assemblies in a brief judgment also said that the elections should be held on 16 November as per the president's declaration and there should be no interference in the process of restoring democracy.

### Islamabad Reports 26 Sep Afghan Air Violation

*BK2609141288 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Text] Six Afghan aircraft penetrated up to 5 kilometers in Pakistan's airspace and dropped six bombs on a village (Sheekh) near Parachinar. The interior secretary of the NWFP told the Radio Pakistan Peshawar correspondent that five persons, four women and a child, were killed in the bombing. Seven others were injured.

### Press Note: Situation 'Peaceful' in Karachi East

*BK2709154188 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] A press note issued by the district magistrate, Karachi East, says that the situation in the brigade police station limits was peaceful today and there was no report of any untoward incident.

A search was made under the supervision of the magistrate to seize illegal weapons. Some illegal weapons were seized and some persons were also taken into custody. Law enforcement agencies made elaborate patrolling in the area to strictly observe curfew restrictions.

Curfew was relaxed for 1 hour at 1700 [1200 GMT] in the evening to enable the people to buy food and other essentials. The press note says the curfew will be relaxed between 0700 and 0800 tomorrow morning and again between 1600 and 1700 in the evening. The law and order situation in other areas of Karachi East was normal today.

### Political Settlement in Afghanistan Urged

*BK2709084988 Karachi DAWN in English 18 Sep 88 p 1*

[Editorial: "Breaking the Stalemate in Afghanistan"]

[Text] The Pakistan Government's move to introduce a resolution in the UN General Assembly calling for the restoration of peace in Afghanistan is a positive one.

Five months have passed since the Geneva accords were signed and half the Soviet forces have already left Afghanistan. But fighting and bloodshed continue to ravage that unhappy land. In these unsettled conditions, the refugees naturally feel hesitant to pack up and begin the long awaited journey back home.

All this has some serious implications for Pakistan, although a qualitative change is discernible in the security environment as a result of the progress of the Soviet withdrawal process. Until peace and harmony is restored in an independent and non-aligned Afghanistan, Pakistan will continue to be burdened with the political, economic and social consequences of the conflict on its north-western border.

Hence the extraordinary compulsion to seek a political settlement in Afghanistan. What is most encouraging is that the Pakistan Foreign Office is now addressing the issue of the formation of a broad-based government in Kabul.

The importance of this has been recognised by all parties to the Geneva accords but none of them has made any serious move to get a government representing all segments of Afghan opinion installed in Kabul. As such, the UN representative's proposal for the formation of a coalition government in Afghanistan by September 1 has gone by default.

As pointed out by the Foreign Office spokesman, the issues relating to the formation of such a government are essentially for the Afghans themselves to decide. So far the Mujahidin have refused to accept the Geneva accords or negotiate with Mr Diego Cordovez on the political set-up in the country. Without their cooperation, it is not possible to resolve the Afghan problem

peacefully. It is significant that Pakistan has expressed its willingness to help moves for intra-Afghan talks on a future government acceptable to all major sections of opinion and interests.

Now is the time for all parties to reciprocate this gesture of goodwill and make a supreme effort to evolve a consensus on a broad-based government in Kabul. It is also for the Mujahidin to recognise the prohibitive cost of a military solution which, even if one is possible, can at best be temporary, given the degree of superpower involvement in its affairs over the past several years.

Besides, Afghanistan is not a homogenous society and its tribal, political and ideological divisions have created perfect conditions for civil strife. Only a government set up on the strength of a national consensus can ensure durable peace and harmony. The principle of positive symmetry which allows the two superpowers to continue supplying arms to the two warring sides is contributing to a prolongation of hostilities in Afghanistan.

Washington and Moscow should now reconsider their positions on this issue. Recognising the principle of a power equilibrium in Afghanistan, they should, on the one hand, stop the flow of arms into that country and, on the other, make a concerted move towards a political settlement.

## Sri Lanka

### Indian Troops Resume Operations Against LTTE

#### Roadblocks Set Up

*BK2609111488 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 26 Sep 88*

[Text] Heavily armed Indian troops backed by helicopter gunships have resumed operations against the LTTE after the 10-day cease-fire ended at 0700 yesterday.

Indian High Commissioner J.N. Dixit said the cease-fire has ended and what has to be done is being done.

The 5-day cease-fire announced by India to give LTTE a chance to enter the democratic mainstream came into effect at 0700 on 15 September. It was extended by a further 5 days at the request of citizens committees in the north and the east.

Reports from Vavuniya and Batticaloa say the Indian soldiers came out of their camps at 0700 yesterday and set up roadblocks and started searching vehicle passengers. There was no search during the 10 days of the cease-fire. The Joint Operations Command said there were no reports of serious post-cease-fire incident.

#### 3 'Terrorists' Arrested

*BK2609113788 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1112 GMT 26 Sep 88*

["OANA/pool" Item]

[Text] Colombo, 26 Sept (LANKAPUVATH)—Three LTTE terrorists were apprehended by the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) soon after the IPKF ended its ceasefire yesterday morning.

Official sources told LANKAPUVATH that three terrorists, one of them wounded, were travelling in a van along with two others when they were apprehended at an IPKF checkpoint at Puliyankulam in the Wanni sector.

The sources said that an improvised explosives device (IED) located under a railway track in Jaffna town was later destroyed by IPKF personnel.

Meanwhile, a report from Trincomalee states that an LTTE terrorist, Thangaturai alias Jagan, had surrendered to Indian troops at Muttur yesterday.

#### 3 PKF Men Killed by Mine

*BK2709162738 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Sep 88*

[Text] In Sri Lanka, three PKF [Peacekeeping Force] men have been killed in a landmine explosion south of (Kachchaveli) in Trincomalee sector. A PKF press release issued in New Delhi says in the ensuing exchange of fire, one LTTE militant was killed.

In Vavuniya sector, another LTTE militant was killed in an encounter with the PKF patrol near Alampil.

#### 'Terrorist Hideout' Destroyed

*BK2809105988 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1039 GMT 28 Sep 88*

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 28 Sep (LANKAPUVATH)—The IPKF located and destroyed a terrorist hideout at Mankerni in Batticaloa yesterday.

Official sources told LANKAPUVATH that in operations conducted by Indian troops in the Jaffna sector, three terrorists were apprehended at Ittavil and one terrorist vehicle containing a large stock of medicines [was] recovered at Veravil. At Chalai, Indian troops recovered 11 claymore mines.

### Delhi: Council Member Killed by JVP 27 Sep

*BK2809032088 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 Sep 88*

[Text] In Sri Lanka, one member of the Western Provincial Council was shot dead yesterday by suspected JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna] elements in the district of Kalutara. The member, Mr (Veerasena Pitigala), belonged to the opposition United Socialist Alliance.